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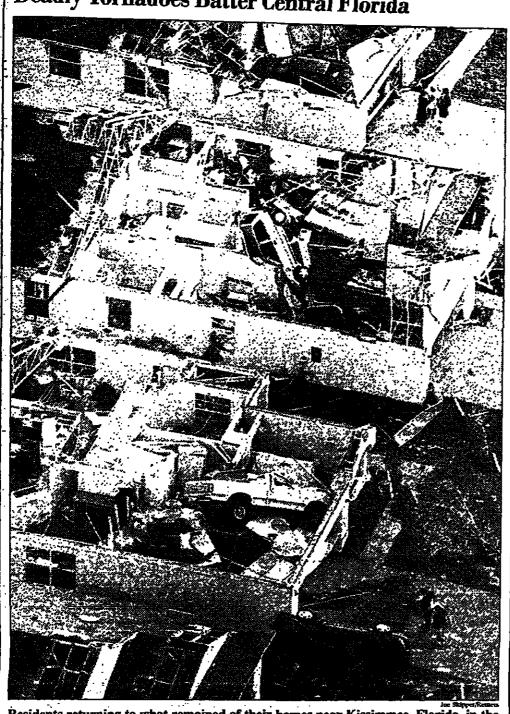
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Residents returning to what remained of their homes near Kissimmee, Florida, in the

Silicon Valley Wants Immigrants U.S. Ponders Higher Quotas for Foreign Computer Scientists

By Robert Pear

WASHINGTON — Under pressure from Congress and the computer industry, the White House is considering proposals to increase the immigration quota for computer scientists and other information-technology workers, so that foreigners can fill

thousands of job openings in the United States.

The issue is extremely divisive. President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore want to placate friends in Silicon Valley, the computer center in northern California, who say there is a critical shortage of technology workers, but they risk offending organized labor.

· Under current law, employers can bring in up to

65,000 skilled foreign workers each year. The workers receive visas, known as H-1B visas, that

In 1997, for the first time, the government issued the maximum number of such visas, and it expects to reach the limit again in May or June, several months before the end of the current fiscal year.

High-technology companies, which depend on foreign workers for essential services, have been lobbying the administration to support an increase in the annual limits. They say there is an urgent need for Congress to act this year, and some lawmakers are eager to do so.

The initial public response from the adminis-

See JOBS, Page 10

• The people of Baghdad were staying cool, seemingly taking it all in stride. Page 10.

President Sees 'Big If' on Compliance With Annan Plan

By Brian Knowlton

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton announced Monday that he would give a UNbrokered agreement with Iraq a chance to work, averting U.S. military strikes that had appeared perhaps only days away.

But Mr. Clinton, speaking at the White House, emphasized that there would be no pullback of the growing U.S. military presence in the Gulf region and that any failure by President Saddam Hussein of Iraq to uphold the agreement could lead to a powerful attack.

If fully implemented, and that is the big if, this will allow Unscom to fulfill its mission," said Mr. Clinton, referring to United Nations

But he added in a direct warning to Mr. Saddam, "If Iraq fails to comply and to allow

immediate access, there will be serious conequences this time."

The government of Iraq," he said, "has made a written commitment to provide immediate, unrestricted, unconditional access to Unscom weapons inspectors to all suspect

Agreement in Iraq sends the price of oil to its lowest level in four years, page 13.

weapons sites," fulfilling the fundamental U.S. demand. He said Unscom, the UN Special Commission, would repeatedly "test and verify to ensure Iraq was complying.

The president said that Iraq had agreed in writing to open all suspect sites in the country not just the sensitive "presidential sites" that Iraq had declared off-limits in January - to unrestricted inspections by UN weapons experts.

He also confirmed that those inspection teams would be accompanied, in their visits to sensitive sites, by senior diplomats from the five permanent member-countries represented on the UN Security Council. Those diplomats, who will be appointed by Mr. Annan, will be allowed to make repeat visits with no deadlines to complete their work, he said.

The president said the agreement represented the first time since the end of the Gulf War in 1991 that fraq had agreed in writing to open every site in the country to UN inspectors'

Mr. Annan, stopping over in Paris on Mon-day night on his way back to New York, said the accord that he had signed with Iraqi authorities was sound. Mr. Annan told French television that Mr.

See IRAQ, Page 10

Annan's Candor Makes His Iraqi Hosts Wince

By Barbara Crossette New York Times Service

BAGHDAD - The ink was barely dry Monday on Iraq's agreement with the United Nations when the two men who signed it were already back on the barricades of the next

Facing the largest battery of television cameras and the biggest corps of newspaper and radio journalists that have probably ever assembled in this normally closed country. Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz of Iraq and Secretary-General Kofi Annan had no time to celebrate. They were inundated with questions about what was left unanswered by their accord and whether it could be sold to the United States.

The details of their agreement will be revealed to the Security Council on Tuesday, when Mr. Annan returns to New York. The sense here is that Iraq will be as quick to exploit loopholes as the United States will be to expose

But it was evident Monday in Mr. Aziz's testy responses to reporters' questions at a news conference following the signing that Iraq had backed away perhaps more than it intended under the deceptively low-keyed pressure of Mr. Annan, who took control of the news conference from its opening minutes and left the usually ebullient and articulate Mr. Aziz largely on the sidelines.

ince of Mr. Ani extremely significant to the Iraqis.

President Saddam Hussein has tried for year to break out of Security Council control and the lockhold that the UN Special Commission, known as Unscom, has on Iraq's relations with the rest of the world because it has the power to recommend the lifting of sanctions. Mr. Aziz made the subtle point at the news briefing that, in Baghdad's view, Mr. Annan "was the United Nations."

Mr. Annan sensed in several questions that reporters were expecting him to be back the next time around, now that the pattern of his high-level involvement has been established. He deflected the questions by saying that if the new agreement held, new confrontations would

See ANNAN, Page 10

Praise for Pact, and Relief

 The European allies, led by France, hailed the pact as ending the crisis. Page 10.



Mr. Annan, left, and Mr. Aziz juggling questions in Baghdad on Monday.

No Clear Outcome Over Iraq

Saddam Yields, but Could Gain From Western Disunity

By Joseph Fitchett rnational Heruld Tribune

PARIS -In many ways, it was a model of gunboat diplomacy: The United States de-ployed an armada, concerned nations cajoled the recalcitrant Iraqis, and Baghdad backed down on UN arms inspections. In other ways, skilled negotiators demon-

strated the scope of peaceful diplomacy. The deal brokered by the UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan — if approved by the Security Council - obtained Iraqi compliance, the result officially sought by all sides.

But the outcome did not feel as comfortably clear-cut or as cathartic as that

Western and Arab diplomats said Monday that the process seemed to have opened a gap between the United States and Britain as pro-ponents of force, and other countries, notably France and Russia, that stressed the need of

avoiding military action at almost any cost. This good cop-bad cop approach proved to be a formula for success in this crisis, the diplomats said. But they warned that divergences in emphasis might turn into a flaw that

NEWS ANALYSIS

the Iraqi regime could exploit when Washington seeks to rally continuing international efforts to contain Saddam Hussein.

Western governments did achieve their technical objective: getting Saddam Hussein to let the United Nations destroy or account for all his weapons of mass destruction.

From the U.S. viewpoint, the outcome seems to guarantee the completion of the UN inspections designed to provide as much information as possible about what Iraq had accomplished --

See DIPLOMACY, Page 10

Seoul Welcomes the New, Jakarta Sticks With the Familiar

Kim Proclaims His Vision of Democracy

By Nicholas D. Kristof New York Times Service

SEOUL - His head shaved, his taut body dressed in a prison uniform, Kim Dae Jung lay huddled under a blanket in his freezing cell, shivering uncontrollably and despairing that he had wrecked the lives of his wife and three sons.

Sentenced to the gallows for leading the fight against South Korea's military dictatorship, he had felt his Roman Catholic faith wavering as he faced his own death, and he upbraided himself for his doubts and for what he felt was his lack of courage. As he lay in his cell that night, he tried to pray, but instead, he recalled, he broke down and began to cry, great

tears trickling down his icy cheeks. That was just 17 years ago, and the distance that Mr. Kim and South Korea have traveled since his heart broke on that desolate night will be marked Wednesday when he is inaugurated as president. Often described as "Asia's Mandela," Mr. Kim takes office with the same kind of moral authority as Nelson Mandela of South Africa and similar stature as an international figure.

At a time when much of Asia has lost

its footing and is groping for a more solid political and economic structure, Mr. Kim proclaims a vision for a new Korea and a new Asia: political democracy, market-oriented economics and policies that emphasize social justice. He says he is willing to speak out against human-rights abuses in Burma or even China, and he clearly intends to transform South Korea so it can be an example for the world.

"I want Kim Dae Jung to be a model that is successful in Asia, proving that democracy and the economy can go together well," he said in English dur-

See KIM, Page 4



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Suharto's Grip on Power Looks Unbreakable

By Keith B. Richburg Washington Post Service

JAKARTA - Indonesia, the world's fourth-most populous country, is sliding steadily toward an economic and social breakdown.

There are outbreaks of rioting and looting daily in towns and villages on Java and Sumatra. Members of the country's ethnic Chinese minority, whose shops have been the main targets of rioters, live in fear. A drought has left food in short supply. Unemployment is mounting. Factories no longer function. People do not even bother paying their electricity bills.

The fate of 200 million people --- as well as many of Asia's financial markets - depends solely on the whims and reactions of one man: President

After 32 years in power, Mr. Suharto

remains an enigma not only to the out-side world, but also to his own people. He is rarely interviewed, and when he speaks in public, the former general is given to cryptic comments that analysts spend weeks trying to decipher.

Paradoxically, while Mr. Suharto is facing the gravest challenge ever to his hold on the country, he is also at the peak of his power. Next month he is to be appointed to a seventh five-year term by an assembly picked largely by him. Democracy backers have been margin-

alized. The military, the only force capable of removing Mr. Suharto, is more firmly under his sway than ever.

Even his critics — now more brazen than ever in calling for him to step down - concede they can think of no credible

See SUHARTO, Page 7

Careful, Cell-Phone Firms Can Tell Where You've Been

By Peter Wayner

NEW YORK - Cellular telephones, long associated with untethered freedom, are becoming silent leashes as telephone companies around the world have begun installing equipment that will allow them - or police, ambulance dispatchers, worried parents or jealous

monitor a caller's position and movements in detail even months after the call was made - is drawing fire from privacy advocates and civil libertarians.

"The question is whether the telephone system is being built for communication or surveillance," said

vacy Information Center, a U.S. advocacy group. At the moment, it appears to be evolving into a tool for both.

The most public use of cellular positioning infor-

& Telephone Corp.: a system that reports the position of

enforcement officials, or just inquisitive individuals, to a mobile phone by faxing a map of its location to the person requesting the information. The company said the service was intended primarily for parents checking on their children. To protect the privacy of callers, the person asking for the location of a cell phone must know the caller's personal identification number.

In December, a Swiss newspaper reported that the country's police force could recover a mobile telephone user's position for any call made in the previous

AGENDA Netanyahu Wants

Talks With Arafat

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel called Monday for intense faceto-face talks with the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, to broker a

definitive peace agreement. Mr. Netanyahu said, should sit down together, Mr. Arafat and myself, in the presence of the Americans, for example at Camp David in the United States, to solve the problem and reach an historic accord."

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spouses — to precisely track the location of callers. In many cases, the new technology is being defended as a protective measure for people making emergency calls. But the ability that this technology offers for law-

David Banisar, a staff anomey for the Electronic Primation was unveiled this month by Nippon Telegraph

See TETHER, Page 10

Dissonant Songs for the Children of Revolution

By Mirta Ojito New York Times Service

AVANA - More than eight years after the Cold War melted in the rubble of the Berlin Wall, the children of Cuba continue to dive under desks in schools all over the island.

The drills serve to reinforce the most pervasive ideological lesson in Cuba's schools: The United States is evil and Cubans must always be ready to defend them-

That old message, fashioned after the Bay of Pigs invasion and the missile crisis in the early 1960s, is fed constantly to children here even when there are no tensions between the United States and any other country.

But it is an especially poignant message today, when most families in Cuba have relatives in the United States and when, faced with enormous economic difficulties, the Cuban government has allowed dollars to circulate freely on the island.

Nowadays, when children come home from the war drills, they slip on shoes bought with dollars sent by their grandparents in Miami or, in some cases, they work odd jobs catering to American tourists to earn dollars them-

In the mornings, William Jose Diaz, a 12-year-old Pioneer who is in eighth grade, swears to defend the Cuban flag against "los Americanos." In the evenings, he rushes to open the doors of tourists cars. He works outside Pain de Paris, an expensive bakery in Vedado.

Most nights, he makes at least \$2. When someone handed him \$1 recently, the boy rushed home to buy bananas for dinner.

Years ago, it was easier for parents to keep their children blissfully unaware of both their true political feelings and the hardships they went through. But now, with the country's economy in chaos, even young children know that once they turn 7 they lose the right to buy milk.

They know that the government issues only two school uniforms during elementary school - one in kindergarten and the other in fifth grade. And that they are no longer able to buy toys because the government did away with the yearly ritual of selling toys to children on the 26th of July, the anniversary of the be-



Children hear one message in school and another, radically different, at home. Their teachers preach hostility to America; many of their parents want to go there.

ginning of Fidel Castro's armed uprising in 1953.

The contradictions of their young lives — hearing one message in school and another, radically different, at home — confuses some children. Their teachers want them to fight the Americans; their parents want to join them or, at least, to get some of their dollars.

"Mom," a 7-year-old girl re-cently asked her mother, "if William Clinton is so bad, why do we want to go live with him?"

RUSTING their children and thinking them ready to absorb contrasting messages, many parents openly discuss their beliefs in front of them and even mock the revolutionary slogans and songs the children bring home. But they ask their children to keep what is said inside the home to them-

Some parents fear that their children will be ostracized if their teachers know they live in a nonrevolutionary home. Parents whomake a living in what the gov-emment considers illegal activities - renting a room or selling cigars without a license — also know how you feel about ents can do to shape their chilfear that, if their children talk, the everything," said the mother, a dren's education. In a country with

government may confiscate their goods, fine them or, in some

cases, jail them. The burden of living in two distinct realities affects some children in psychological and physical ways. Teresita, a 14year-old ninth grader who lives in Old Havana, said she had never told her best friend that her parents desperately wanted to leave the country.

She also has never told anyone that, when the doors are locked, her mother rants against Mr. Castro, blaming his government for the scarcities in their home. Two months ago, Teresita began to shed the hairs of her arms and legs. The doctors told her that she lacked some essential vitamins in her diet; the mother believed the ailment to be a result of stress.

A 52-year-old writer who wanted to be identified only by his first name, Angel, cannot stand a song praising the revo-lution that his 9-year-old daughter has been singing lately. He tells her to stop, and his daughter obeys. The mother, worried about her daughter, intercedes.

"You want your children to be a full member of the family, to

member of the Communist Party who long ago grew disenchanted with the revolution but outside the home pretends to be as enthu-siastic as ever. "But I worry sometimes how all this is going to affect her and how much contradiction she can really absorb in

her young mind." Yet the girl's mother, in a fit of anger, recently ripped to pieces her red Communist Party ID and threw it out the window. It was her daughter who ran three flights downstairs in a panic to retrieve the picture from the sidewalk so that no one would ever know what her mother had done. While Angel helps his daughter

with her homework, he systematically deconstructs everything she has been taught at school. She is now learning about Jose Marti, a 19th-century patriot who fought to free Cuba from Spanish colonialism. In Cuba today, Mr. Marti is also regarded as the intellectual precursor of the revolution. Angel tells his daughter that Mr. Marti would never have supported Mr. Castro's govern-ment. The little girl giggles and rolls her eyes.

But there is very little that parents can do to shape their chil-

down on black liberation

and sometimes intimidating

political style earned him the

says he has nothing more to

Although Mr. Botha says

he has no problem being tried by a black judge, that Judge

Lugaju is presiding over the

nickname "Big Crocodile,"

add to his written answers.

Mr. Botha, whose stubborn

ory education until ninth grade, parents are forced to send their children to state-run schools. They also have no say about the curriculum and, more and more these days, very little about their chil-dren's extracurricular activities.

Some parents try to exert con-trol by taking their children late to school to avoid the morning ritual where students salute the flag, sing the national anthem and repeat revolutionary slogans. Others are turning to religion, hoping that lessons in catechism will open their children's minds to other points of view.

During his five-day visit to Cuba in January, Pope John Paul II referred to Cuba's youth in two of the four Masses he celebrated. At the first, in Santa Clara, some parents nodded in silence when the Pope said, "Parents must be acknowledged as the first and foremost educators of their chil-

UT IT IS difficult for parents to heed the Pope's words. Elementary school children go to school here from 8 A.M. to 4:20 P.M. On Saturdays, they often return to school for sports or political events. Sometimes they sleep over in the school to await so-called *Domingos de Defensa*, Sundays of Defense, days in which the children practice what it is like to be under attack and receive their lessons in a bunker.

Marta Perez Herrera, deputy director of Pepito Tey, an ele-mentary school in Old Havana, said that, beginning in third grade, children are trained by members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, who teach them everything from patriotic symbols to military moves. At a recent practice session in a park, uni-formed men were training young children to march as one.

While the children marched, a 16-year-old girl in tight pink shorts stood on a corner a few blocks away eyeing foreigners. The girl, Yanel Noa, said she dropped out of school because she did not want to work in the fields, a requirement for all students in high school.

Had she continued in school, she would have become a dancer, she said. For now, she lives off the charity of a special friend: a 32year-old married American man who often travels to Cuba loaded with cash.

has changed.

conducted.

Mr. Botha's lawvers had

Judge Lugaju taking the case,

not on the ground of race, but

Afrikaans language in which

Mr. Botha's defense will be

But Mr. Laubscher said

Monday he had received as-

surances that the judge did

understand Afrikaans well

enough to conduct the trial.

Vienna Homeless Also Have a Ball

Event Is Message to Politicians

By Jane Periez New York Times Service

season when Vienna gets giddy with balls. Everybody has one: the coffeehouse owners, the fire fighters, the atomic scientists, even the government, which was the host last week for the centuryold Opera Ball, which mixed lyrical waltzes with aged Hollywood celebrities.

This year a newcomer entered the scene, the Homeless Ball, which was meant to be a celebration for those forced to seek shelter in the

As gilded Vienna swished through the front door of the Opera House on Thursday night in taffeta and satin, real and fanx jewels sparkling in the flash bulbs, others sanntered into the Art Academy down the street, dressed in shabby parkas and scruffy sneakers, unkempt hair poking out from grubby baseball caps.

At one party, a flute of champagne cost \$30, and Raquel Welch was the toast of the house. At the other, homeless men and women were the guests of honor, and a glass of bubbly wine cost \$2. The Vienna State Opera Orchestra played Strauss in the chandeliered Opera House; a seven-piece brass band playing under the frescoed ceiling of the academy set the tone for the homeless.

Counterballs to the Opera Ball -- held on the same night as the big affair and intended to poke fun at it — are not a new idea. The Rose Ball, staged by a gay nightclub, has been around for a while. So has the Ball of Bad Taste, which this year featured a host dressed, if that is the word, like Pamela Anderson of "Baywatch."
There was also a Wallflower guests were asked to wear beige and dress discreetly, a contrast to the strapless gowns with bouffant skirts that Vienna society favors.

But the Homeless Ball was new. Organized by Augustin, a welfare organization that publishes a weekly newspa-Homeless Ball was intended politicians, said Erika Parzer, the founder of Augustin.

We want to tell them that the ball season belongs to everyone, not just the rich,' Ms. Parzer said.

In fact, most of the several hundred guests at the Homeless Ball were sympathizers, originally raised objections to students and social workers who had come out in solidarity for the estimated 5,000 on his ability to speak the homeles, of Vienna.

In the minority were soup. "What's the point?" people like Conrad Hinteregger, 54, who spent the night before sleeping on the floor of a shelter, or Martin Reha, 29, who said he usually sleeps

"There are more males than females," Mr. Hinteregger grumbled as he looked VIENNA — This is the around the crowd in the Art Academy hall. Mr. Hintereg-ger said he had been out on the streets for a year after losing a chain and then losing his assets in a divorce settlement. Now he spends most of his

time at the Gruft, a homeless shelter in the basement of a Roman Catholic church in central Vienna. There, he and about 150 others get free meals and the chance to take a shower and wash their clothes.

The night before the Homeless Ball, the Gruft, one of about a dozen shelters sup-ported by the city and church organizations, was packed with people eating goulash at long trestle tables: At 9:30 the tables were cleared, and people rolled out mats and blankets for the night. The Reverend Karl Goelles, who runs the center

'The ball season belongs to everyone, not just the rich.'

said homelessness had become more prevalent in Vienna in the last decade as state-financed housing became scarcer and the divorce rate climbed, leaving more men without shelter and money. In the 1980s, he said, turn-of-thecentury government apartment buildings had been gentrified and many tenants pushed out:

By the standards of most European cities, the homeless of Vienna are fairly invisible and fairly well looked after. For those who do not want to go to a shelter, social workers go out into the streets every Ball in a small club where night, offering hot soup and medical help.

Vienna's south train stath tion is a favorite hangout, and when it gets very cold, the two waiting rooms are crammed with up to 60 people, Father Goelles said.

On Thursday night, whefi the Opera Ball was in full per sold by the homeless, the swing and the Homeless Ball was gathering steam, about a to send a message to the dozen men lined up at the west station for steaming soup and hunks of bread provided by social workers from Caritas, the Catholic charity.

"The men said they knew the ball was on but wouldn't go because they didn't have the right clothes," said Iris Rieger, a social worker, after serving the soup.

"A ball for the home-less?," asked one of the homeless men, downing his

The man said he had a job as a welder and could afford the \$50 a month a shelter was charging for a bed. "But I can't get a place," he said. 'The shelter is full."

The Company

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TRAVEL UPDATE

On the Rise: Asian Airline Safety

SINGAPORE (Reuters) - Asian airlines' safety records P.W. Botha, the former presare improving faster than those of airlines elsewhere but still lag behind the rapid expansion of the region's traffic volume. an aviation analyst said Monday.

'Despite 1997's disastrous year, safety has been rapidly improving and is probably improving faster than anywhere in the world," said Paul Hayes of Airclaims Ltd. Aviation disasters in Asia claimed 675 lives in 1997, one of

the worst years on record for the region.

Bonn Cites Risk by Foreign Carriers

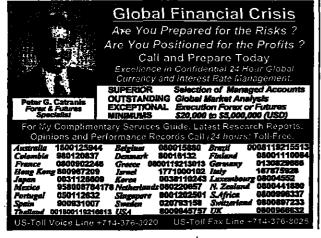
BONN (AFP) - Only about one in eight flights by foreign airlines operating in Germany meets international security standards, according to a report by the German Federal Aviation Office cited by a television station. Out of 806 charters and other flights surveyed, only 104 met

security norms set by the International Civil Aviation Organization, the private TV station Kabel 1 said in a report to be aired Wednesday.

Italian Air Controllers to Strike

ROME (AFP) — Italian air traffic controllers are to start a four-hour strike Tuesday that is expected to cause major disruption, particularly at Rome's Fiumicino Airport.

The strike, called by the independent SACTA union, is planned from 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.



Truth Panel Is Prejudiced, Botha Says

GEORGE, South Africa-

ident of South Africa, pleaded not guilty Monday to defying the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, instead accusing it of being prejudiced against him. Mr. Botha's lawyer, Lappe

Laubscher, told a packed courtroom that the Truth Commission was biased in favor of the ruling African National Congress and had reneged on its promises to Mr. Botha, who ruled whiterun South Africa for 11

"The accused pleads that the commission was prejudiced," Mr. Laubscher told Judge Victor Lugaju, who is black. "The commission acted in bad faith, with an ulterior motive and manifestly

Judge Lugaju postponed the trial date until April 14. Mr. Botha, 82, is accused of ignoring three subpoenas to appear before the commission, which was set up in 1995 during the apartheid era. If convicted, he could be sentenced to two years in prison struggle.

and ordered to pay a fine. Mr. Botha's lawyer contended that the commission about the State Security chairman, Archbishop Des- Council, which Mr. Botha

November 1996 that Mr. which coordinated the crack- izes how much South Africa Botha could avoid appearing before the commission if he submitted written answers. Mr. Botha supplied more than 1,700 pages of answers.

Mr. Laubscher, explaining Mr. Botha's plea, said the Truth Commission had broken that deal by subpoena-

Walking slowly with a cane, Mr. Botha, who underwent a hip replacement last trial of a man who fought hard year, greeted reporters upon to prevent black rule symbolhis arrival at the courthouse in George, located near his

hometown of Winderness. About 100 African National Congress demonstrators marched and sang but they were kept about 300 feet (100 meters) away from the courthouse by barricades of razor wire police had set up around

the building overnight. Mr. Botha says the commission is conducting a witch-hunt against Afrikan-ers, the Dutch-descended white settlers who dominated apartheid-era governments.

Mr. Botha, who was ousted to investigate human rights as president by F.W. de Klerk abuses committed by all sides in 1989, ruled the country as president by F.W. de Klerk through the most violent times of the anti-apartheid

The commisson wants him to appear to answer questions mond Tutu, agreed in headed in the 1980s and

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Forecast for Wednesday through Friday, as provided by AccuWeather.

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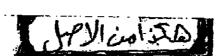
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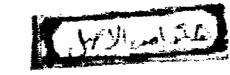
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Have a Rall The Deconstruction of Paula Jones: Clinton Lawyers Take a Gamble crotch rather than just cares her tight. "Every person who ever dealt with her, roughly crotch rather than just cares her tight." "Every person who ever dealt with her, roughly crotch rather than just cares her tight.

WASHINGTON - Piece by piece, President Bill Clinton's top-dollar legal team at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flore has taken apart the life of Paula Jones.

It has examined topics from her job history to

Academy hall Mr line ger Said he had been me it cets for a ver aircle in a divorce sense who have sense in a divorce sense who have spends man for the reasons. They scoured personnel records and discovered she typed only 24 words a minute and scored 121 out of 174 on an Arkansas state

Venturing into more salacious territory, they interviewed as many as a half-dozen men who claimed to have had sex with her, say people close to the case.

Now that the lawyers essentially have finished gathering evidence and made the final pretrial effort to get Mrs. Jones's sexual harassment

The Clinton legal squad is following an aggressive and political risky strategy centered on Mrs. Jones herself,

After all the attention focused on a president linked by fact or rumor to a host of women most recently and most perilously Monica Lewinsky - Mr. Clinton's lawyers hope to turn the spotlight with blinding intensity on the life of his most persistent accuser.

"Does her story make sense?" asked Mitchell Ettinger, an attorney for the president. 'It has always been our position to point out why it doesn't make sense. No one's going to argue they weren't in a room together. And you don't have to call her a complete liar. But everything she's said - about her injuries to her job, her reactions to this, her reasons for filing suit - it's

not going to add up." The tactics have not been well received in Dallas, where Mrs. Jones's attorneys are based. They bristle at the testimony sought from pur-

lawsuit thrown out, a picture has emerged of the president's defense team and where it is has nothing to do with being accosted by Mr. Clinton. The president's camp has stopped at little "to try to slime our client," said David Pyke, one of Mrs. Jones's lawyers. "Despite their public statements, they have not taken the high road."

The cornerstone of the defense is that Mrs. Jones has not shown that then-Governor Clinton or anyone else in the Arkansas government penalized the \$4.93-an-hour clerk for rebuffing a sexual advance in a hotel on May 8, 1991.

Even if he did lure her to a suite, expose himself and ask for sex - as she has charged and he has denied --- at worst the encounter was a single boorish pass that was turned down with no adverse workplace consequence, this argument goes.

Personnel records and affidavits filed last week along with Mr. Clinton's motion for summary judgment indicated that Mrs. Jones received satisfactory job reviews and pay raises totaling 25 percent over two years. Supervisors testified that they were unaware of the encounter with Mr. Clinton and were never ordered to punish her.

one ever heard of this incident, of her meeting with the governor, or that any job action should be taken against her," Mr. Ettinger said. "You've got to show that there's job detriment, or some appreciable effects on her job. She got every ment raise available to her and she got the

Mrs. Jones maintains that others got more money and that she was moved to a dead-end assignment after returning from maternity leave. Even if there were no direct retribution, her lawyers argue, the alleged encounter itself constituted sexual harassment under court rulings that hold that a single incident is enough to win a case if especially severe.

Thus, it was significant that in her November deposition, made public last week, Mrs. Jones added new allegations that subtly make the incident sound more offensive. She said that while warning her to keep quiet, Mr. Clinton mo-mentarily blocked the door when she tried to leave, that he tried to kiss her twice instead of just

"Every person who ever dealt with her, nuzzling her neck and that he tried to grope her

Mr. Clinton's team may attack those variations to undermine her credibility if the case goes to trial as scheduled on May 27.

Last June, after complaints from feminists and other critics, Robert Bennett, lead attorney of the Clinton team, disavowed reports that he was planning to investigate Mrs. Jones's past. But the

inquiry did not stop.

His team collected the information and passed it along to the lawyer who is representing a codefendant, Danny Ferguson, the Arkansas state trooper who escorted Mrs. Jones to meet Mr. Clinton. Since Mr. Ferguson had none of Mr. Clinton's political worries about using a woman's sex life against her, his case became the vehicle for that avenue of attack.

To undercut that strategy, Mrs. Jones's lawyers dropped a defamation count against Mr. Ferguson if she no longer claimed that her reputation was harmed, they reasoned, her past would no longer be relevant in court. But the other side is still looking for ways to introduce its evidence.

Clinton Likely To Testify in respla tolled on me by purkers and blankets for the night trs. unkempt The Reversal Coelles, who much t Lawyers Say

Los Angeles Times Service WASHINGTON - The focus of attention recently has been on when Monica Lewinsky will be called to testify before the grand jury. But the more intriguing question is whether or when President Bill Clinton will be called.

Many lawyers here predict Mr. Clin-TUCAS DONNING PECSURES. ton will be asked to answer questions and the divorce rate de under oath, and sooner than most exmore men a pect. The outcome of the inquiry may theirer and money h; turn on whether the president gives a ne and me plausible explanation for a set of circumstances that look suspicious.

So far, a strategy of silence has are many tenants process. Worked well for the White House, better 5) the standard of: even than the president's advisers had expected.

> But the independent counsel Kenneth Starr may soon upset that strategy.
>
> "Absolutely. I bet they ask him to

testify. That's the way they are headsaid a lawyer who has represented prominent Democrats. "I think it will happen within a few weeks, and Clinton has no real legal grounds to refuse" to

appear merely because he is president. Another lawyer who is close to Mr. Starr said that seeking Mr. Clinton's answers to questions under oath "is the logical outcome," adding: "There is plenty of precedent for it, including in this investigation,

Advisers to Mr. Clinton have been discussing among themselves how to respond if Mr. Starr seeks the president's

"Some people think the attacks on Starr were to lay the predicate so that the president can turn him down," said a senior adviser, adding that he did not believe that would work. "At some point he has to say something. I think

it's very hard not to testify," he said.

But another former administration lawyer said that he believed the president would avoid testifying at all cost. "I think he will say no and stonewall," he said.



Joseph diGenova complaining on NBC TV that he is being investigated.

White House Denies **Probes of Prosecutors**

POLITICAL *Notes*

WASHINGTON - The White House says it has not authorized private investigators to "dig up dirt" on pros-ecutors, investigators or reporters looking into the Monica Lewinsky case, disputing allegations raised on national television by a prominent Republican

Joseph diGenova, a former federal prosecutor now working for House Republicans, said he was told that he and his wife, Victoria Toensing, an attor-"were being investigated by a private investigator with links to the White House." Mr. diGenova, who has played a peripheral role in the Lewinsky investigation, offered no evidence, attributing his charge to tips from reporters.

He said on NBC that ,"If the White House is condoning the investigation of private citizens, looking into their then "that is truly a frightening" development.

The White House fired back hours later, berating Mr. diGenova for re-peating what it called "blatant lies."

"No one at the White House, or anyone acting on behalf of the White House, or any of President Clinton's private attorneys has hired or authorized any private investigator to look into the background of Mr. diGenova, Ms. Toensing, investigators, prosecutors or porters," said Michael McCurry, the hite House press secretary. (WP) White House press secretary.

Riadys Reject Link To Chinese Agency

LOS ANGELES — The father-son owners of an Indonesian conglomerate accused of illegally channeling foreign money to President Clinton's re-election campaign denied a report they had a long-term relationship with a Chinese intelligence agency, the Los Angeles Times reported Monday.

In a statement released to the newspaper, Mochtar and James Riady denied assertions that their Indonesiabased Lippo Group has links with a Chinese intelligence agency.

"Not wishing to entangle ourselves in American national issues and debates, we have remained silent," they said. "However, recent reports appearing in the United States press are so false and malicious, we must break our

Our business ventures with our international partners are commercial in nature and do not involve the gathering of classified information or other in-

telligence operations."
The Washington Post reported Feb. 10 that the Riadys "have had a long-term relationship with a Chinese in-telligence agency." The report said that relationship appeared to be based on business interests to obtain Chinese assistance in international business opportunities "in exchange for large sums of money and other help." (AP)

Quote/Unquote

Senator Robert Byrd, Democrat of West Virginia, a master of bringing pork-barrel projects home and a champion of putting more money in the highway construction pot for every-one: "When 42,000 people are dying on the highways every year and we're told that 30 percent of those deaths are caused by poor road conditions and poor design, then, yes, I'm one of those saying put highways first."

High Court Upholds Sex Offender Law

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court let stand on Monday the nation's first "Megan's Law," which allows for the names and addresses of sex offend-

ers to be made public. inflicted an unconstitutional extra punishment on sex offenders who had already served prison terms by notifying the community that the offenders were living in the area.

All 50 states have enacted sex ofregistration statutes, and 37 fender including New Jersey, also provide for community notification about the presence of such offenders. A class action suit brought on behalf of

sex offenders challenged the community notification provision of New Jersey's Megan's Law, which requires those convicted of sex offenses before Oct. 31, 1994 to register with local authorities. The law was enacted after the ab-

The nation's highest court refused to duction, rape and murder of seven-yearwho confessed to her murder lived across the street from the Kankas in Trenton, New Jersey. He had been convicted twice of sexual offenses targeting young girls and he shared his house with two men who had also been convicted of sexual crimes.

Neither the police nor the Kankas were aware of the man's history.

The petitioners argued that the New Jersey law violated both the Double

Jeopardy and Ex Post Facto clauses of the constitution. The Double Jeopardy clause prohibits double punishment for the same crime and Ex Post Facto prohibits laws that change and inflict a greater punishment.

Among the petitioners' arguments roactive by forcing those convicted before the law was passed to register with authorities.

Under Megan's Law, the prosecutor of the county where the registrant lives must evaluate private, detailed information provided by the offender to determine whether he or she poses a low, moderate or high risk of a re-offense. The prosecutor most also determine the appropriate scope of community notification.

Away From Politics • The nation's biggest charitable

foundations grew 22 percent richer last year as rocketing stock prices increased the value of their assets by more than \$23 billion. The growth means foundations will have more money to give away in 1998, according to the Chronicle of Philanthropy, an industry publication that surveyed 121 of the largest private foundations.

More than one-third of female doctors say they have been sexually harassed. Overall, 47.7 percent reported having been targets of gender-based harassment, and 36.9 percent reported having been sexually harassed, according to a 1993-94 nationwide survey reported in the Monday issue of the Archives of Internal Medicine. (AP)

 State-of-the-art parking meters are replacing old and damaged ones in central Washington as the nation's capital seeks to recover lost revenue - and: bolster its battered image. Only 7,000 of the city's almost 16,000 parking meters work. Many have been vandalized,: causing a decline in parking revenues from \$1 million a month in 1995 to \$260,000 a month in October. (NYT)

• A 57-year-old New York cab driver fought back against a gunman who sought to hold him up in his taxi in Brooklyn. Despite being shot three times during the struggle, the driver managed to disarm his assailant. When the police arrived at the scene, they found the driver training the .38-caliber revolver on the suspect.

Abraham Ribicoff, Kennedy Ally, Dies at 87

NEW YORK — Abraham Ribicoff, 87, the powerful and popular governor of Connecticut, and Welfare. congressman and U.S. senator and secretary of health, education and welfare under President John Kennedy, died here Sunday of heart failure. He had also been suffering from Alzheimer's disease.

Mr. Ribicoff, who spent nearly half a century in

public service before retiring in 1981, was one of the best vote getters in Connecticut history. He had been a close Kennedy friend and political ally since 1948, when both were young congressmen.

Early on, he visualized Mr. Kennedy as a formidable national figure and worked hard to see that he achieved the presidency. He nominated Mr. Kennedy for vice president in 1956; he was the convention floor manager for his successful race for the presidential nomination in 1960, and he was the first man named to the Kennedy cabinet.

Sixteen months later, he returned to Connecticut and successfully ran for the Senate in 1962. He remained a liberal stalwart in the chamber for 18

In 1968, Mr. Ribicoff made a memorable appearance at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago, which was being buffeted by demonstrations against America's continued involvement in the war in Vietnam. When it came his turn to nominate Senator George McGovern, Mr. Ribicoff looked directly at Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago and said, "With George McGovern as president of the United States, we wouldn't have these Gestapo tactics in the streets of Chicago."

He served in the Senate for three terms. During his tenure, he supported President Lyndon B. John-

Mr. Ribicoff resigned as governor to become son's continuation of the war in Vietnam, but secretary of the Department of Health, Education finally broke with Mr. Johnson late in the decade.

H. Gardner Ackley, Economic Adviser WASHINGTON (WP) - H. Gardner Ackley, 82, a principal adviser on economic policy to Presidents John Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson, died Feb. 12 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. He had Alzheimer's disease.

Mr. Ackley, who had a long career at the University of Michigan, where he was chairman of the economics department, was called frequently to Washington. An apostle of the New Economics, he was a member of the Council of Economic Advisers under President Kennedy and chairman of the council under President Johnson.

Early in 1969, Mr. Johnson named Mr. Ackley as his ambassador to Italy. Mr. Ackley resigned after several months to return to the University of Michigan, from which he retired in 1984.



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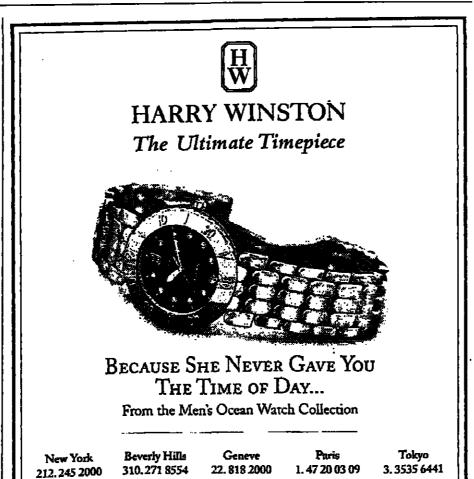


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Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatche,

SEOUL - President-elect Kim Dae Jung named as his prime minister Monday the former head of an intelligence agency that he believes once tried to kill

The president-elect also named a hu-man rights lawyer, Han Seung Hun, as the chief government inspector respon-sible for rooting out official corrup-

Appointed prime minister was Kim Jong Pil, founder of the Korea Central Intelligence Agency, the chief tool used by military dictators to stifle dissent.

The president-elect allied himself with Kim Jong Pil and his relatively small conservative opposition party last year in his campaign to win the presidential election in December.

However, the majority party, the Grand National Party, has vowed to defeat ratification of Kim Jong Pil's appointment when Parliament votes on it Wednesday, the day of the presidentelect's inauguration.

Leaders of the majority party contend that the prime minister-designate lacks the background and ability to help deal

with the nation's financial crisis.

The majority controls 161 seats in the 299-member, unicameral General As-

Kim Jong Pil, 72, a retired army officer, was a key member of a military coup in 1961 that put General Park Chung Hee in power. He created the Korea Central Intelligence Agency and served as its chief for several years.

In 1971, Kim Dae Jung ran for the presidency and almost beat General Park, sending shock waves through ruling circles that regarded Mr. Kim as a

dangerous dissident. While in Japan in self-imposed exile in 1973, Mr. Kim was kidnapped by government agents. Thwarted in the act of trying to drown Mr. Kim, the agents of trying to drown Mr. Kim, the agents of trying to drown Mr. Kim, the agents of trying to drown Mr. Kim received 3.9 billion won (\$2.37) funds were managed by his wife's nephologous funds were managed by his wife



Kim Jong Pil, named Monday to be South Korea's new prime minister.

released him several days later.

In another development Monday, the prosecutor general's office cleared the president-elect of allegations of wrongdoing after its investigation into the majority party's charge that he took bribes from businesses and stashed millions of dollars worth of slush funds in

After interviewing more than 250 government and party officials and law-

million) from five firms as political contributions with no strings attached to the funds.

The senior prosecutor, Park Soon Yong, dismissed assertions made during the campaign period that Mr. Kim had slush funds of 100 billion won in 700 bank accounts.

It said that most accounts had no links to Mr. Kim and that 87 accounts containing 4.77 billion won in political

Parched Borneo Catches Fire Again

A New Haze Threat Looms as Strapped Farmers Burn Fields

By Seth Mydans New York Times Service

SAMARINDA, Indonesia — The eastern coast of Borneo, dry after a year of drought, is bursting into flame again, raising fears that a wave of choking smoke could soon blanket Southeast Asia as it did last autumn.

Desperate to survive as food shortages and bankruptcies spread in Indonesia, both small farmers and plantation owners have apparently resumed their slashand-burn land clearing despite a government ban on burning and in defiance of pleas by neighboring countries.

The fires and the continuing drought

broken in much of the country only by sporadic rain showers - are bringing added misery to a nation that is suffering its worst economic and political crisis in decades.

The drought has ruined crops and added to the unemployment and food shortages that are causing price riots around the country in a social parallel to last year's wildfires.

From hilltops here in Kalimantan Timur Province, plumes of smoke can be seen in every direction. As the wind shifts unpredictably, flames eat their way through the forests, driving birds and animals ahead of them. Farmers with machetes rush to cut fire breaks. Clouds of sweet smoke sting the eyes and bring an early dusk to villages.

"I was up all night fighting a fire near my home," said Badui, a farmer, as he hacked underbrush at the edges of a crackling fire north of Samarinda. "Now I'm helping my friend save his home. It was the same thing last year."

At a tracking station here, brightly colored computerized satellite images show hundreds of shifting hot spots. Most are clustered here in the country's driest province. But two new clusters appeared recently in northeastern Sumatra, the other Indonesian island that was a source of

the regionwide haze last year. 'If the meteorology predictions are right, the dry season may be longer than last year," said Longgena Ginting, coordinator of forestry advocacy at Walhi, an environmental lobbying group. "If

Singapore, Malaysia and the Philippines have already voiced their concern. Malaysia is particularly worried about the possibility that smoke could ruin its plans to play host to the Com-monwealth Games in September.

The smog last antumn affected six Southeast Asian nations, forcing the closing of airports, contributing to ship collisions and cutting deeply into the tourism industry. It also caused widespread health problems and led to the evacuation of many foreign diplomats and executives.

The root cause of the problem has not changed, Longgena Ginting said. "In Kalimantan, the fires are mostly caused by plantations and timber estates that we started to clear land again."

mirial Center Wren that happens, I am quite sure the fires
will be worse than they were last year. It
really depends on the weather."
Singapore, Malaysia and the Philtikely that plantation owners will shift to more expensive mechanized methods. In addition, said Charles Barber, a

senior researcher for the World Resources Institute: "The government has no money now to do enforcement or 🌢 oversight. This is a problem in all areas of environmental management. It's a very unfortunate confluence of events: the drought, a boom in land clearing, which never had very good oversight, and now less money to focus on what goes on out in the field.

'Combine that with a large amount of dead and dry biomass, which is lying around from incompletely burned areas from 1997, and you could have some real rough fires. It could be worse in May than it was even last September."

Tamil Gunboats Sink 2 Ships In Battle With Sri Lanka Navy

COLOMBO — In a sea battle that killed up to 70 people, rebel gunboats attacked a 12-ship convoy carrying soldiers to northern Sri Lanka and sank two vessels, military officials said Monday.

Tamil Tiger rebels in about 25 boats clashed with navy warships escorting the convoy off the northern coast, mil-itary officials said.

Security forces are heavily dependent on sea transport to the northern peninsula of Jaffua, which is cut off from the rest of the country because the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam still hold the main land access route.

Defense analysts said the Tamil Tiger attack was part of the rebels' larger plan to cut off the supply line to thousands of soldiers in Jaffna.

Government troops have been conducting a major offensive since May to open the land route to Jaffna but have yet to succeed. About 1,000 soldiers have been killed, according to official

Troops on the peninsula depend largely on the navy for reinforcements, military hardware and dry rations, while the air force ferries fresh food and small numbers of troops to battle zones. "Tigers know if they can cripple the

navy, they can cause more damage to the army," a senior military official said. "For them, it is better and more effective than confronting the soldiers on the ground."

Two ships carrying 110 soldiers and crew were sunk in the hourlong battle Sunday night. The rest of the 12-ship convoy reached a nearby military port.

The Tamil rebels are fighting for a separate homeland for minority Tamils in northern Sri Lanka. More than 51,000 people have been killed since fighting

people have been killed since fighting

KIM: As Asia Gropes for Answers, South Korea's New Leader Believes He Has Them

Continued from Page 1

ing an hourlong interview in his office.

"This is my ambition." To fulfill enormous expectations, Mr. Kim will have to deal with three overarching challenges in the coming years: reviving the South Korean economy, easing the threat of war with North Korea and nurturing democratic institutions and a civil society.

These will be tremendously difficult

Kim Dae Jung's vision is deeply threatening to the entrenched order in much of Asia and much of the developing world. He contends that the solution to Asia's economic crisis is more democracy, greater openness and freer markets, and he argues that the crisis arose because of political weaknesses.

"In every country in Asia, including Korea, the major reason for failure was lack of democracy," he said. Democracy, he added, was the best way to uproot collusive relations between government officials and business tycoons, while ensuring that companies thrive on the basis

of excellence rather than connections. Mr. Kim is a firm critic of the "Asian values" theory, which holds that a measure of authoritarianism is the best way to nurture economic growth. "Democracy has to go hand in hand with eco-nomic growth," he declared.

That kind of language produces

pained expressions from officials in such places as China or Indonesia.

"He is really going to change the whole profile of Asian leadership," predicted Donald Gregg, a former U.S. ambassador to South Korea and now chairman of the Korea Society in New

York. "I think he's going to do a fab- is bitterly divided between the Cholla ulous job."

Kim Dae Jung will face some special difficulties, for he has endless experience as a gadfly but none actually running any level of government, and his aides already warn that he is a micromanager who must learn to delegate. In addition, he is handicapped because his political party has only minority support in the National Assembly.

Finally, though he seems healthy, he is already 74 and it is not clear how he will hold up over his five-year term.

On the other hand, Mr. Kim has the advantage of a strong South Korean presidency and of soaring approval ratings. Elected with just 40 percent of the vote in a three-way race, he has rapidly won over many critics, and 83 percent of those surveyed in a recent poll said it was good for South Korea that Mr. Kim

had been elected. There is a mood of elation and relief in part because many South Koreans and foreigners, particularly establishment figures, initially regarded Mr. Kim with deep suspicion. He was suspected of being a populist who would pander to labor unions, take revenge on his political opponents and engage in battles and renegotiations with the International Monetary Fund.

So far, none of those worries has

proved to be justified. One of Mr. Kim's first actions after the election in December was to arrange the release from prison of two of his greatest persecutors, former Presidents Chun Doo Hwan and Roh Tae Woo,

under whom he was nearly executed. The gesture was an important effort at national reconciliation, for South Korea region in the southwest, where Mr. Kim comes from, and the Kyongsang region in the southeast, where the two former presidents have their roots.

Mr. Kim also went out of his way to reassure the Samsung Group, a giant conglomerate that had fervently opposed Mr. Kim for many years. Sending a strong signal of even-handedness, he met the head of Samsung and encouraged him to offer suggestions for na-

tional economic restructuring. Mr. Kim has long experience in charming people who expect the worst

"We were always told that Kim Dae Jung was a threat because he could incite the masses, that he was a socialist, that he was a violent person, and I kept on hearing those things, so I came to believe it," recalled Lee Yeol, a retired policeman who says his job from 1976 to 1987 was to spy on Mr. Kim's house.

Mr. Lee gleefully recalled that his main tasks were to identify foreign journalists who visited Mr. Kim and to go through Mr. Kim's mail and garbage — and that was when he began to have doubts about his work.

"One day, I was looking through Kim Dae Jung's trash, and I found a piece of his writing entitled 'Resolving Regional Hatreds,'" Mr. Lee said. "I was really

impressed. I thought he was a genius."
"I used to look forward to going through his garbage, in hopes of finding some of his writings," he added. "But after a while Kim Dae Jung's family members must have caught on to what we were doing, because they stopped throwing away papers like that. I was really disappointed."

Yet Mr. Kim, for all his passions about democracy and human rights, is as much a pragmatist as an idealist. Throughout his career he has been willing to compromise, and indeed he was elected in December only because he agreed to take as his running mate a former rival, Kim Jong Pil, who was the architect of the 1961 coup that led to decades of military rule.

On Monday, he appointed Kim Jong Pil, 72, as the next prime minister.

Last month he held an unprecedented two-hour "town meeting," televised nationwide, and a young woman asked nim doiniedly whether his ellosts to encourage foreign investment would not mean the "economic colonization" of South Korea.

"We must accept a lot of foreign investment," Mr. Kim declared, beaming and launching into a long lecture on capital flows. "When money enters my country, that becomes my money. Times have changed so that we are living in an era in which gaining foreign investment is more important than

boosting trade." "We're living in a globalized world, and in this respect our country is very backward," he added. Then he cited and praised a foreign newspaper article that criticized South Koreans as among the rudest people in the world to outsiders.

"If foreigners think this, then no investments will enter Korea, no tourists will come here and no one will buy our products," Mr. Kim warned. "How can we survive like this?"

When he had finished scolding his countrymen, there was a brief, shocked pause. And then the audience burst into long applause.

BRIEFLY

Hindu Government Reinstated by Court

NEW DELHI — A court reinstated the Hindu nationalist leadership in India's largest state Monday, two days after the government's dismissal threatened to overshadow India's general election.

The High Court in Uttar Pradesh state nullified the decision by the state's governor, Romesh Bhandari, to replace the government led by the Bharativa Janata Party.

Mr. Bhandari, who is federally appointed, dismissed the government after some of its small allies walked out, depriving it of a legislative ma-

Mideast Tour Ahead For Taiwan Leader

TAIPEI -- In a new effort to escape diplomatic isolation, the prime minister of Taiwan left Monday on unannounced visits to the Middle East and Malaysia.

Prime Minister Lien Chan will receive an honorary doctorate from a Jordanian university, then visit Bahrain before returning via Malay-sia, the state-owned CNA reported. Mr. Lien will also visit Lebanon, the United Evening News reported.

None of those countries has diplomatic ties with Taiwan, which

China claims is a renegade province. China routinely protests visits by Taiwan's leaders to countries that recognize Beijing.

Young Thugs Caught

TOKYO - Tokyo police said Monday they had caught a group of young purse snatchers who had committed scores of robberies to get money for arcade games.

A police spokesman said the 12 suspected gang members, who ranged in age from 10 to 17, preyed on elderly people. The suspects were quoted as saying they stole about 2 million yen (\$15,600) in more than

The police arrested 5 of the 12; the others could not be charged because they were under 14.

BEIJING — The authorities in central China have begun moving 71,000 people in the second stage of a resettlement program to make way for

nesses, the official Xinhua press agency reported Sunday.

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Chinese to Be Moved

the huge Three Gorges Dam. Hubei Province also will move 52 major industrial and mining operations and build thousands of buildings to house relocated families and busi-

In all, China plans to move 1.2 million people to make way for the dam on the Yangtze River. (AP)

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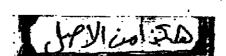
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Fire Again' Farmers Burn Fields

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Combine that with a large to the dead and dry biomass, which is around from incompletely brade from 1997, and you could have real rough fires. It could be to May than it was even last Speak

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yet to succeed. About 1,000 at have been killed, according to the

Troops on the peninsula le largely on the navy for reinforce military hardware and dry raion, the air force ferries fresh food and

numbers of troops to banle zons Tigers know if they can one navy. they can cause more danger the army. a senior indiany desaid. For them, it is before ada effective than confronting the sile ou me dionity.

Two scrips carrying 110 soldies, crew were suck in the honding Sunday night. The rest of the lie convoy reached a nearby military

The Tamir rebels are figure separate nomeland for mnoin is in newborn 5n Lanka Moreholic people have been killed sincited erutsed in 1983.

IEFLY

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Young Thugs Cont

TOKYO — Tokyo police s Monday they had caught a group ye are purse snatchers who had on musical scores of soblems to a market inducade games www.said tell saviscopia o and mempers apomi in the from 10 to 17, preved me derly people. The sispens are quality as saving they stoked and market \$15,600) in market

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Chinese to Be Movel

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Harber Province also will men. agency reported Sunday. In all China plans in mulicon popie to make with ine Yangize Rive.

EUROPE

Ulster Talks Darkened As Blast Hits 2d Town

Commercial Center Wrecked by Car Bomb

By James F. Clarity

oversight This is a problem in the drought, a boom in land to which never had very good been goes on our in the field.

PORTADOWN, Northern Ireland—
For the second time in four days a bomb balieved to have been planted by Roman catholic guerrillas ripped the center of a predominantly Protestant town Monday, raising fears that the five-year-old Northern Ireland peace effort was crumbling and that this British province was being and that this British province was predominantly protestant town Monday, raising fears that the five-year-old specific province was being and that this British province was predominantly protestant town Monday, raising fears that the five-year-old specific province was provin on the verge of returning to widespread sectarian violence.

In Monday's attack at noon in Portadown, 25 miles (40 kilometers) west of Belfast, several shops and banks were severely damaged, but there were no injuries. On Friday night, hours after Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army, was suspended from the formal peace talks, a bomb exploded in the village of Moira, injuring 11 people, none seriously.

The British government and the po-

The British government and the police of the Royal Ulster Constabulary have not blamed the IRA for the attacks, Republican splinter group, the Continuity IRA, is widely suspected of detonating the bombs in order to destabilize the political talks and draw Protestant paramilitaries to retaliate. The Continuity IRA has not claimed

responsibility for the bombs. After his expulsion until March 9, Gerry Adams, the president of Sinn Fein, said the main IRA organization had not been responsible for the attack in Moira. The IRA has stated, before the two recent blasts, that the cease-fire it called in July was still intact.

Protestant unionist leaders said that the two blasts, both in the hometowns of

The Associated Press

TIRANA, Albania — Government

proops stormed into the devastated

porthern town of Shkoder on Monday

where armed gangs had taken over, loot-

ing and burning public buildings and

Sunday after supporters of the main

opposition party, the Democrats of former President Sali Berisha, took to

the streets, demanding the release of two

The protest turned into a full-scale

senior Berisha supporters.

Trouble had erupted in Shkoder on

robbing banks.

Troops Retake Albanian Town

unlikely that Sinn Fein would be readmitted to the formal peace talks in Belfast, which resumed Monday but

were disrupted by the latest bombing.
The British and Irish governments have said that the peace talks would not be stopped if the violence was from small splinter groups.

But if Monday's blast is eventually attributed to the main IRA, Sinn Fein's exclusion would probably be extended, if not made permanent. Sinn Fein was suspended by the Irish Republic and British governments after they found that the IRA had been involved in the killing of two civilians two weeks ago in Belfast.

If Sinn Fein were permanently ex-cluded from the talks, officials and analysts said, it would be virtually impossible to reach a sustainable peace

■ Bomb Was Set Near Police Post

Portadown police said Monday's bomb was planted in a car parked 600 feet (about 200 meters) from a police station, Reuters reported.

"This is another dastardly act, destroying the commercial center of a town and putting people's lives at risk,' a police spokesman said.

Portadown is the power base of the extremist Protestant pro-British Loyalist Volunteer Force, whose leader, Billy Wright, was shot and killed by republican guerrillas inside Northern Ireland's Maze prison on Dec. 27.

Meanwhile, in the Irish Republic on Monday, police disarmed a firebomb in a car abandoned outside a police station in the village of Dromad near the border with Northern Ireland. They said the leading Protestant politicians, made it Loyalist Volunteer Force was to blame.

riot, with all public buildings ransacked

and many burned, witnesses said. At

least three policemen were hurt and the

police force was forced to flee when the

crowd invaded a police station and re-

sent from Tirana, 100 kilometers (60

miles) to the south, stormed across a

bridge to the town that had been bar-

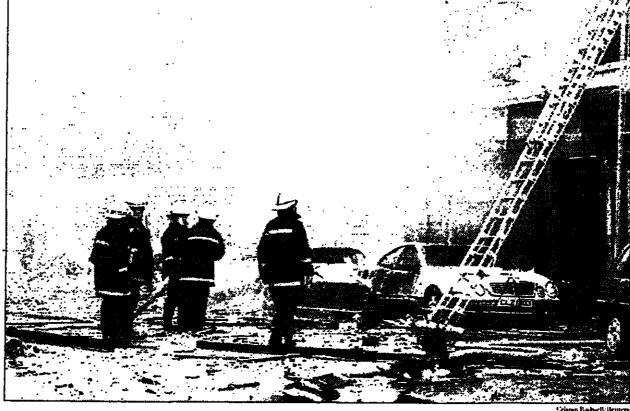
ricaded by about 60 gunmen. It was not

immediately clear if the rebels resisted

the taking of the bridge and if there were

On Monday, Interior Ministry troops

leased 35 prisoners.



Fire fighters in Portadown, Northern Ireland, working to extinguish blazes started by a large bomb Monday.

EU to Resume High Contacts With Iran

Ending Freeze Over Terrorism, Foreign Ministers Appeal for Dialogue

BRUSSELS - The European Union decided Monday to resume ministerial contacts with fran, ending a 10-month freeze on senior-level contacts that was imposed after the government in Tehran was implicated in terrorism in Ger-

Foreign ministers from the 15 EU states agreed to "respond positively." "encouraging" recent developments in Iran and the interest it has shown in a more constructive relationship with

The ministers called for officials to develop proposals for an EU-Iran dialogue on terrorism, on the production of weapons of mass destruction, on the death sentence imposed by Tehran on the British writer Salman Rushdie and on the Middle East peace process.

'Iran's willingness to address these concerns would greatly enhance the success of the dialogue and Iran's reintegration into the international community," the ministers added.

The EU's decision to suspend min- States is expected to rule shortly that isterial contacts with Iran followed a German court ruling last April that senior Iranian officials were involved in organizing the killing of four Kurdish dissidents in a Berlin restaurant in

The bloc's senior diplomats, withdrawn in protest, returned to Tehran in November but ministerial contacts remained suspended.

Despite the upgrading of political ties, the EU will be maintaining its policy of tight controls on Iranian embassies in Europe, diplomats said. Many of the embassies are believed to have been used as bases for covert activ-

The initiative is bound to aggravate differences between the EU and the United States over how to deal with

Washington has pursued a policy of isolating the Islamic regime and is weighing possible sanctions on oil groups for investing in Iran. The United rity. ...

Total of France, Gazprom of Russia and Petronas of Malaysia are all subject to sanctions under the Iran-Libya Sanctions Act because of their participation in the \$2 billion development of a gas field off Iran.

President Bill Clinton has so far been reluctant to provoke a trade war with Europe by allowing the sanctions to be imposed. Even if the State Department announces that the companies are subject to sanctions, he can delay their application for up to 180 days and then waive them altogether on the grounds that the move would be detrimental to

U.S. interests. But the signal from the EU on Monday that it wants warmer relations with Iran will make it harder for Mr. Clinton to persuade Iran's foes in Congress that the Europeans are working towards the same basic objectives: ensuring that Iran stops supporting terrorism and does not become a threat to regional secu-

BRIEFLY

EU Is Toughening 'Mad Cow' Rules

BRUSSELS - Aiming to impose tougher rules to prevent the spread of "mad cow" disease, the European Commission is considering banning the sale of T-bone steaks and mutton chops in nearly half of the EU's member states, officials said Monday.

Officials of the 15-member bloc are rewriting draft laws on which material would have to be removed from carcasses at the slaughterhouse. There are fears some material might be infected with bovine spon-

giform encephalopathy.

The draft ban includes more material than originally planned, and would force seven states with a history of the disease to ban sales of meat attached to the vertebral column from cattle, sheep and goats more than a year old. (Reuters)

Georgian Leader **Wants to Negotiate**

DZHIKHASKARI, Georgia -President Eduard Shevardnadze agreed Monday to talk with a representative of the gunmen who have been holding three UN military ob-servers hostage for four days.

The kidnappers, supporters of Zviad Gamsakhurdia, who was ousted as president in a coup in 1992, said they were skeptical of the offer. They are demanding that the authorities release all jailed supporters of the late president.

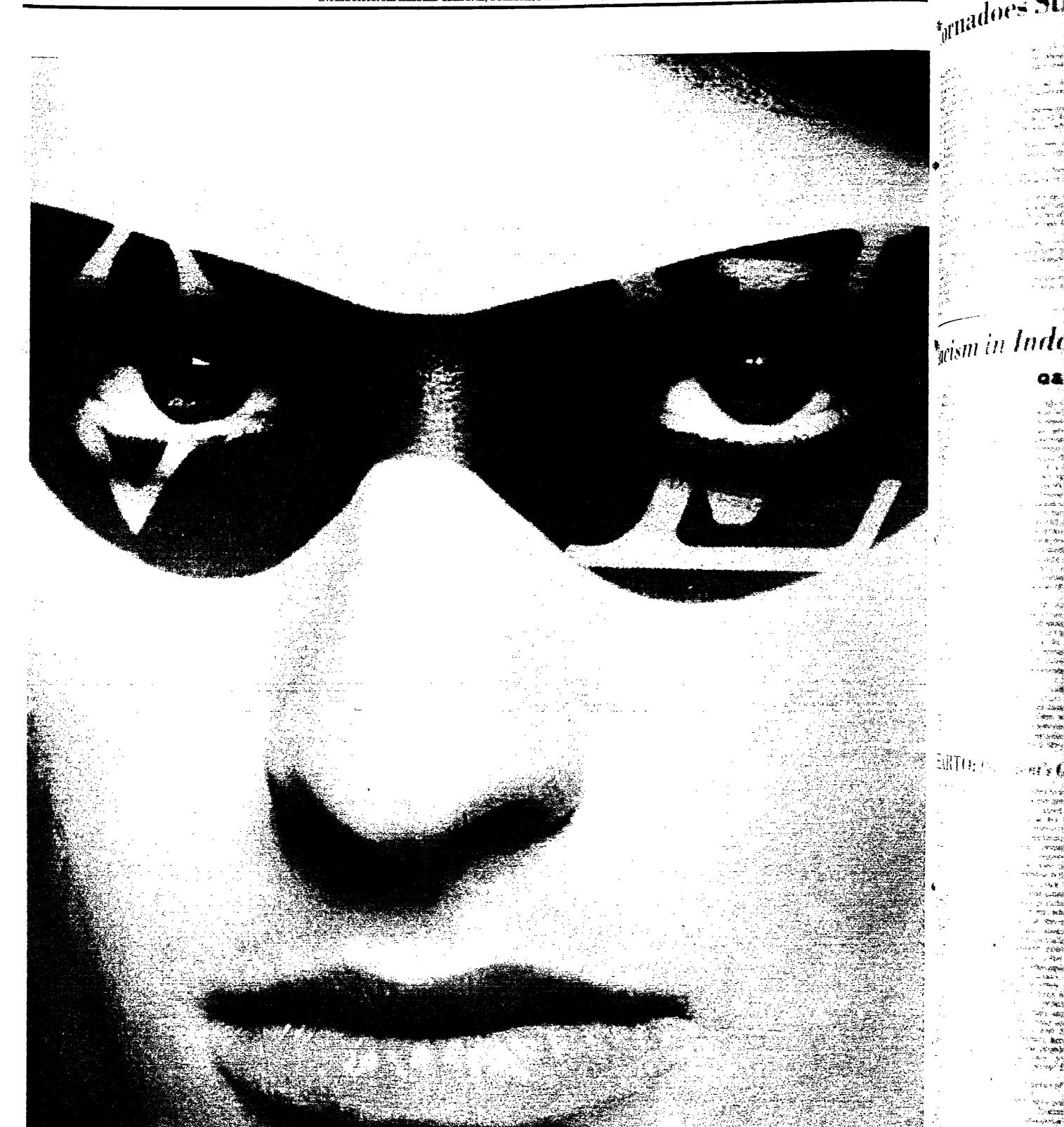
Mr. Shevardnadze has said the kidnappers are the same men who were behind an assassination attempt against him two weeks ago — a charge they deny.

Changes in Russia?

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin indicated Monday that he might shake up his government after it reports to him on its record Thursday, Itar-Tass press agency reported.

'He said after a meeting with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin that the tone at the meeting would be 'demanding' and specific officials would be called to account. Tass said. It quoted Mr. Yeltsin as adding: Decisions about them will follow immedi-

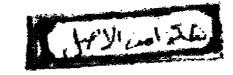




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INTERNATIONAL

Tornadoes Strike Central Florida, Killing 33

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Florida — Tornadoes hit with deadly force across central Florida on Monday. filling at least 33 people and destroying hundreds of homes. Two people were missing.

We've had so many touchdowns we can't keep rack of them," said Angela Braden, spokeswoman for the Seminole County sheriff's office.

The twisters missed the three major theme parks

in the Orlando area — Walt Disney World, Universal Studios Florida and Sea World, which opened Monday for business as usual.

Just southeast of Disney World, however, one person was killed in the Osceola County city of

Tomadoes were reported from Daytona Beach on the Atlantic Coast to the Tampa Bay area on the Galf Coast.

East Coast on Monday. Georgia also was affected. with floods closing roads and schools Monday after semuch as 5 inches (13 centimeters) of rain fell

Some of the tornadoes may have had wind peeds as high as 210 miles (340 kilometers) per ur, said Bob Ebaugh, a forecaster at the National

More than 135,000 people in central Florida lost giver at the height of the storms, utilities es-

President Bill Clinton said Monday he was send-ing representatives of the Federal Emergency Man-trailer home was destroyed, said the sheriff's inagement Agency, including the director, James Lee Witt, to the tornado area.

through the Bahamas, South Florida and Louisiana

Most of the deaths Monday were scattered through three or four neighborhoods in counties Preston, a fire rescue lieutenant. around the Orlando region.

Eleven people were killed in Seminole County, said Paula Ritchey, a county public safety spokeswoman. Much of the damage there late Sunday and early Monday was near the Sanford airport just northeast of Orlando.

In Osceola County southeast of Orlando, at least The bulk of the stormy weather moved up the said Jeter Walker, an emergency management 14 people died and 200 structures were damaged,

'Big, big tornadoes did this," Mr. Walker

One tornado shredded the Ponderosa Park campground behind Osceola County stadium, the spring training home of the Houston Astros baseball team, killing seven people.

Elsewhere in the county, six people were killed in the Buenaventura Lakes area, where a shopping center was reduced to twisted metal and exposed

vestigator, Derrick Clark.

Witt, to the tornado area.

By comparison with this storm, the hurricane designated Andrew killed 32 people as it tore through the Palaree will be people as it tore.

Two other people were missing early Monday near Lake Harney, northeast of Orlando, Mr. Clark said. Officials also rescued a boater whose craft apparently capsized.

In Orange County, one person died at a re-tirement community west of Orlando, said Vincent

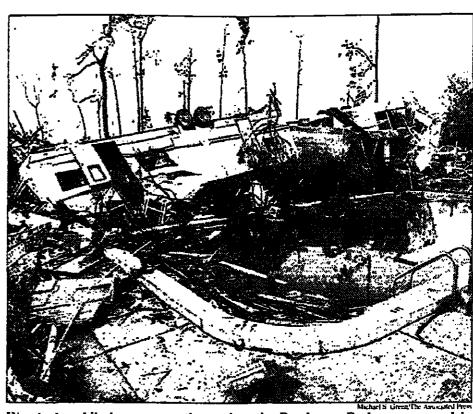
Three tornadoes touched down in the town of Winter Garden, said Jean Moe, Orange County's assistant division commander. The roof of a convenience store was ripped off and several cars were blown away from a parking lot in another area of the county, she said.

About 100 mobile homes were damaged or destroyed in the county, and three of the four buildings in the Country Gardens apartment complex were damaged, Ms. Preston said.

"All of the power in this area has been severed because of the tornado," she added. The winter storm was partly caused by the wind patterns and conditions directed by El Niño, said

The Pacific warm-water phenomenon is blamed for a number of unusual weather patterns around the world, including a series of storms in California that have caused an estimated \$475 million in

Mr. Ebaugh of the weather service.



Wrecked mobile homes near the pool at the Ponderosa Park campground in Kissimmee, Florida, where a tornado hit early Monday and killed seven people.

BRIEFLY

Racism in Indonesia Undercuts Unity

The 7 million ethnic Chinese in Inmesia make up just 3 percent of the population, but they control a large Q. One prominent Indonesian busishare of economic wealth. On a visit to ness leader said recently that the current enforce this discrimination in society. Singapore, Juwono Sudarsono, deputy military officials, discussed the situation sians. Would that be a wise move? of the Chinese minority with Michael Richardson of the International Herald

.Q. Why do the riots in Indonesia over degenerate into anti-Chinese attacks?

A. Unfortunately, there has been a stereotype of the Chinese in Indonesia since Dutch colonial times, because of their vaunted position as middlemen between the colonials and the natives. In this kind of situation they become the target of popular anger and frustration, since they control most of the production and distribution of basic commodities, such as cooking oil, flour, rice and sugar, right down to the level of towns and

We have had sporadic anti-Chinese riots in the past. With severe drought gripping many parts of Indonesia now and widespread concerns about food shortages and high prices, the anger is much stronger this time.

The other reason the ethnic Chinese are a target is that as a small minority of the population they are politically weak. out the anger, rather than hit back.

Q&A / Juwono Sudarsono, Defense Official

economic crisis was the perfect time for governor of the National Resilience In- the government to wrest control over stitute; an arm of the Indonesian Defense commerce from the Chinese and redistain law and order in the face of wide-Ministry that trains senior civilian and tribute ownership to indigenous Indone- spread social unrest?

A. I think it's a dangerous concept that on the densely populated main Indone-goes against the grain of Indonesia's sian island of Java, where 120 million Chinese were upset. They have been in rising food prices and rumors of hoarding Indonesia for generations, yet they still by merchants and shopkeepers so often feel they are regarded as leeches. We 10,000 Indonesians. The police are unshould not distinguish between people dermanned, undertrained and underpaid. of different ethnic, linguistic or religious

I think the right course of action is to and don't last very long. Moreover, the government and the military, so that the sense of nationhood can be reinforced.

Q. Are you saying that part of the problem now is that ethnic Chinese in Indonesia are excluded from some important areas of national life?

A. In formal terms, there is no discrimination. But in real life there are difficulties experienced by Chinese Indonesians in joining the armed forces and the civil service. They even face discrimination in entering the state universities. This is something we must overcome in the next couple of years. One adverse result is that Chinese They do not have the ability to respond. Indonesians then study abroad and get

Q. One prominent Indonesian busi- fault of indigenous Indonesians that we O. Can the armed forces, including the police under their command, main-

A. We have a big problem, particularly constitution and national unity. Many people live. The reach of the authorities

in some areas is limited. On average, there is only one policemen for every The saving grace of this situation is that most of the riots are spontaneous

include as many as possible of these police and the military tend to be seen as ethnic and racial groups in business, the only institution that can save the And don't forget the indigenous Inby Chinese Indonesians from attack. It's

donesians who protect factories owned not just because they work and earn their living there. They know the rioting is wrong. There have been many instances of this protective action in central and east Java.

So I'm quite optimistic that even with the reduction of the subsidies in April, some of these issues will be alleviated. I firmly believe that in the long term, the average indigenous Indonesian will see that the role of the Chinese Indonesians, particularly those who are third- or fourth-generation residents, is really for They therefore feel constrained to ride even more proficient. When they come Indonesia. They are not working for an back, they perform even better. So it's the foreign country.

Bomb Kills 18 on Algerian Train

ALGIERS — A bomb exploded under a passing train Monday, killing 18 persons and wounding 25, the state radio reported, in the latest of a new wave of attacks blamed on

Muslim militants. The bomb was set off near the town of El Affroune, 20 kilometers (12 miles) south of Algiers, the radio said.

There was no claim of responsibility, but the area is known for attacks by the Armed Islamic Group. In other violence, 13 shepherds were killed when their

throats were slit, and two bombs damaged a gas pipeline in weekend attacks, according to newspaper reports Monday. A Muslim insurgency has left an estimated 75,000 people dead since 1992, when the government canceled legislative elections that the Islamic Salvation Front was favored to

4 Mexicans Jailed Over Drugs

MEXICO CITY — Mexican authorities have jailed four suspected members of the Juarez Cartel on drug trafficking, money laundering and weapons charges, the attorney general's office said.

It said the charges were brought Saturday against the men, who were accused of having protected and facilitated drug trafficking.

Rodolfo Ortega Silerio, Ramon Baez Marquez, Paulino Mendoza Contreras and Mario Garcia Garcia were also charged with being members of the nation's largest drug gang, the Juarez Cartel, and with laundering money and stockpiling weapons.

Officials said that Mr. Baez Marquez facilitated cocaine leadership role.

imports through Cancun as a federal judicial police officer. Mr. Mendoza Contreras allegedly protected other cartel members as deputy director of public security in Jalisco

'Bird Flu' Fears Are Revived

HONG KONG - Doctors have found antibodies to the 'bird flu'' virus in health workers, officials said Monday, renewing fears that the virus that killed six persons in Hong Kong could be spread by human contact.

The virus was first detected in humans last year and doctors have been trying since to determine how it is transmitted — particularly whether it could be spread by contact with infected people as well as infected poultry. No new cases have been found since the government banned live chicken imports and killed 1.4 million chickens in December, Imports of chicken resumed Feb. 8.

The presence of antibodies means a person has been exposed to the virus and developed resistance, with or without developing symptoms.

(AP) without developing symptoms.

Castro's Re-election Expected

HAVANA - Cuba's newly elected fifth National Assembly is expected to reconfirm Fidel Castro as president when it meets Tuesday to appoint a president and Council of

Although his re-election is widely expected, concerns about his health last year and the emergence of younger figures in the Cuban hierarchy have fueled speculation that, at 71, he might be considering some kind of scaled-down

SUHARTO: President's Grip on Indonesia Seems Unbreakable

"He is the highest military commander," said Lak-samana Sukardi, an economist and consultant aligned with the opposition. "He decides the promotions and apmost analysts believe that the pointments in the army. He appoints the central bank governor, the boards of directors of state-owned companies; he decides who will be chairman of the securities and exchange commission; he appoints the judges, the members of Par-liament.

Subarto."

Many Indonesian and for-With Indonesia's predicament now viewed as more a say, the country cannot hope to begin reviving its battered financial sector and reversing the spiral as long as Suharto and Company — his rela-tives, friends and business associates - remain in charge. But without Mr. Suharto, most see only more chaos, similar to the slaughter of g sympathizers were slain. future is universally gloomy. in 1996.
Many seem convinced that Her su see to that. No one is only put her at risk. in how or when the end .

will come smoothly.

Paring to start his next five-year term, he is believed to be who would like to see a more

making no plans to step down open system, if not a West-or even to begin grooming a potential successor. He is But the military for the moage and accomplishments. likely to name his longtime friend, B.J. Habibie, the research and technology minister, as vice president, but appointment does not mean that Mr. Habibie is to be Mr.

Suharto's successor. Analysts and scholars here see only three possibilities for change - even while conceding that at the moment, none of them looks likely. Those scenarios include:

isament.

*Under normal circumstances, nobody has any thance to challenge to chal and Marcos in 1986.

There have been scattered eign analysts say that hold has anti-Suharto protests in led to the current turmoil. Jakarta, but they are small, with Indonesia's predicasporadic and easily contained by the police and military. crisis of confidence than a Also, academics here point out that it took people power out that it took people power more than two years to emerge as a potent force in Manila.

• The emergence of a polit-

ical alternative. Many here have pointed to Megawati Sukarnoputri, daughter of Indonesia's independence hero and first president, Sukarno, as one who haps even more bloodshed sand another violent upheaval by her own personality then by the magic of her name. She 1965, in which thousands of gave a fiery speech last month calling for Mr. Suharto to go. But Mrs. Megawati has been be most startling thing to effectively marginalized, lacking even a political party since the government engineers with people here and News with people here and since the government engined the region is that the neered her removal from the overall view of the country's Indonesian Democratic Party

Her supporters insist that Suharto, 76, has entered Mrs. Megawati has to wait for the endgame of his rule; either the right moment. To move ities or his own mortality any sooner, they say, would

A military move against will come, but few think it Mr. Suharto.

Most analysts believe that This is a very dire situ- if there is any change at the top in Indonesia, it will come ation we are facing," said top in Indonesia, it will come lusuf Wanandi of the Center not from the streets and not for Strategic and Internation- from Mrs. Megawati, but from the armed forces. The If the misery deepens, he said, a popular uprising could cupt. But it will be anarchy, not be the said and by any measure the final arbiter of power here. 60t by design," he warned.

Mr. Suharto is making no

final arbiter of power here.

There are also believed to be a concession to mortality. Pre-

ment remains firmly on Mr.

Furthermore, analysts say, Suharto's side. The military's there is no one the officers top officers owe their posi- could unite behind as a re-

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The Iraq Agreement

A definitive assessment of the deal that UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan struck with Saddam Hussein over the weekend must await disclosure of the details this week. But as sketched out by Mr. Annan's aides on Sunday, the arrangement would appear to defuse the Iraq crisis, at least temporarily.

By agreeing to permit unrestricted inspection of previously closed presidential sites. Saddam has ended Iraq's most flagrant defiance of the Security Council resolutions adopted in the wake of the Gulf War.

But the agreement, because it is limited to eight contested sites, leaves open the possibility of Iraqi belligerence about other locations.

Faced with the prospect of an American military attack, Saddam made several concessions. He agreed to open the eight presidential compounds, which inspectors suspect may house chemical and biological weapons or the means to make them, and dropped a proposed 60-day time limit for these inspections. Regular UN inspectors, not a new, less experienced group initially demanded by Baghdad, will check the presidential sites. In return, Mr. Annan agreed that diplomats may accompany the inspectors to sensitive locations to satisfy

Iraq's desire for greater dignity in the inspection regime.
Provided Mr. Annan did not com-

promise the integrity of the inspection system in some manner yet to be revealed, his agreement, for now, should satisfy American demands that Iraq comply with Security Council resolutions. They require international access to any site in Iraq that may be used to store weapons of mass destruction, manufacturing equipment and materials as well as records about the de-

velopment of such weapons.

If so, American military forces can pull back from imminent attack, although they should remain in the re-gion to ensure that Saddam honors the agreement with Mr. Annan. There is always a danger that Iraq will carve out new, excluded areas not covered by Mr. Annan's agreement, a step that would swiftly rekindle the crisis.

By backing diplomacy with the threat of force, Bill Clinton has so far handled the crisis with skill. If the Annan deal is sound, and Saddam carries it out in good faith, he should be no less willing to accept it than he has been to use military force. But America and the world will have to remain vigilant. Saddam has a poor record of keeping his word.

What to Do After an 'Almost Yes' From Baghdad

WASHINGTON — Kofi Annan, W the elegant Ghanaian diplomat Bill Clinton and Madeleine Albright helped vault into his job as secretary-general of the United Nations, has repaid them by fashioning the gravest foreign policy dilemma the Clinton presidency has yet faced.

Hold the Champagne over the indications that Mr. Annan reached broad agreement with Iraq's Saddam Hussein on Sunday in Baghdad on a plan that would allow UN weapons teams to resume their inspections. When Mr. Annan unveils the details of the tentative accord to the Security Council in a day or two, Saddam's answer is likely to amount to "almost yes."

The dilemma that Mr. Clinton and

Mrs. Albright helped create by authorizing the Annan mission, despite se-rious misgivings by some of Mr. Clinton's foreign policy advisers, was captured by Senator John Warner, the Virginia Republican who is one of his party's leaders on defense.
"Will we really be prepared to go to

war over the placement of two semi-colons, a comma and adding two sentences" to the outline of a deal that Mr.

AMBRIDGE, Massachu-

for the United States to over-

throw Saddam Hussein. How

The most obvious way

would be to attack Iraq with a

combination of air and ground

forces. But almost no one in

America wants to risk troops in

Iraq, and everyone agrees that

air strikes alone cannot do the

job. Instead, some suggest, the

United States should master-

For the moment, disregard

that it is illegal under current

law to sponsor assassination for

political reasons. Also disreg-

ard past history, for example

kill Fidel Castro in the 1960s.

could carry out such an as-

sassination successfully? Per-

haps, although it stretches credulity. And could it be done

There certainly are circum-

stances where assassination

might be justified - for ex-

ample, an attempt on Hitler's

life. But the conditions for re-

versing U.S. policy against as-

sassination should be pretty

stringent: unanimous support

from allies; a preponderance of

world opinion, especially in

the region, about the desirab-

ility of getting rid of the des-

pot; some confidence that the

quietly? Impossible.

abortive American efforts to

But is it likely that America

mind a quiet assassination.

would it actually be done?

setts — Many people call

By Jim Hoagland

sounds skeptical about your war-andpeace strategy, you have serious prob-

Mr. Clinton may now face a Saddam squeeze play as the final act of four months of frenetic but confused diplomacy that confronts Washington with mostly unpromising options.

The Russians, French and British

have been the active players in this diplomatic exercise, while the United States has waited for others to take it off the hook. The Russians told Washington and London last week that Saddam had said he was ready to strike the deal with Mr. Annan that Mr. Clinton

That Russian optimism convinced Mr. Annan to push for face-to-face negotiations in Baghdad. President Chinton warily approved Mr. Annan's mission despite the strong misgivings of his UN ambassador, Bill Richardson, who fought any UN negotiations with Saddam, and the more muted but clear doubts of other senior officials, including Vice President Al Gore.

Annan carried when he left New York on Friday? Mr. Warner asked in our conversation that day.

When a steady head like Mr. Warner

Arguing for Mr. Annan's mission was Mrs. Albright, who vetoed re-election of Boutros Boutros Ghali to the top UN job 14 months ago and helped co-

report back to the Security Council either that Saddam is now ready to guar-antee full and unfettered UN inspections

or that no deal is now possible.

The latter verdict would free President Clinton to follow through on his military threats. If Saddam is seen to have suffed Mr. Annan, Russia and France will not even seriously criticize the U.S.-British military strikes that will follow. Boris Yeltsin and Jacques Chirac made that clear to Saddam in private messages last week, according to diplomatic sources

That helped shift the odds toward the "almost yes" scenario last week, as France and America softened their positions on the contentions issue of the presidential palaces that Saddam has declared off-limits to UN inspectors.

Mr. Warner, Mr. Richardson and others fear that Mr. Clinton has been boxed into taking "almost yes" for an answer — into calling off the aerial assault that the Pentagon is primed to begin within seven to 10 days, while the diplomats iron out the wrinkles in the binding written Iraqi pledges Mr. Clinton insisted that Mr. Annan must

bring back to forestall an attack.

Delay would present the Pentagon with logistical and morale problems.

alesce African support behind Mr. Annan. She has insisted to him that he Clinton's enemy. He can use additional time to end the passivity toward find that has marked most of his presidency and the last four months of distributes.

Back to the

He should publicly the any delay in anacking Iraq to four conditions

(1) He will keep substantial American ican forces in the area and they will be ready to snap back into attack mode the inspant Saddam gives Unscom inspectors any trouble. That attack will come automatically and on U.S. decision. with Russia, France and U.S. Arab at lies agreeing in advance not to intervene diplomatically on Saddam's behalf. (2) U.S.-led coalition forces will new

actively interdict smuggling that is bringing trade worth tens of millions of dollars to fraq in violation of sanctions: (3) America will accelerate efforts to bring charges against Saddam's regime in international tribunals.

(4) Mr. Clinton should commit to a new program of support for Iraqi Arabs

and Kurds who oppose the regime.

Holding back the raids and putting Saddam on probation one more time increases costs and risks for the United States. Any delay that Mr. Clinton-grants should not come free for Saddam, or for those countries that have sought it for him.

Rethink the Drug War

Drug traffickers have worked up a major alternative, through the Caribbean, to the routes wending from South America to the United States through Mexico. This development does to these vulnerable islands, including Puerro Rico, what drug policy director Barry McCaffrey said the other day about Mexico: It puts them "under major internal attack, violence and corruption driven by international criminal organizations of a tremendous voracity and cunning." This is the latest sad consequence of the chain of causation starting with the seeming insa-

tiability of American drug demand.

The full range of familiar programs must be intensified in the Caribbean. Plus a new one: bananas. Crop substitution to help South American coca growers is a recognized policy option. General McCaffrey reports that "smart alternative economic policies" in Peru have helped that nation cut cocaine production by 40 percent in two years. But in the Caribbean, American policy undercuts the banana alternative. The United States supported a successful South American growers' challenge to an old European tariff preference fa-voring the Europeans' former Caribbean colonies. The Caribbeans' loss of the preference is to take effect soon. It cries out to be reviewed.

bill to extend by 20 years the term of

copyright protection. Since 1976,

when copyright was last extended, the term has stood at the lifetime of the

author plus 50 years or, in the case of

corporate authors, a total of 75 years.

Supporters of this bill, mainly the film

industry, music publishers and heirs,

argue that extending copyright will im-

prove the balance of trade, compensate

for lengthening life spans and make

American protections consonant with

European practice. But no matter how

the supporters of this bill frame their

jarguments, they have only one thing in

mind: continuing to profit from copy-

right by changing the agreement under

There is no justification for extend-

Senator Ortin Hatch, Republican of

Utah, argues that the purpose of copy-

right is "spuring creativity and pro-tecting authors." That is correct, and the

current limits do just that. The proposed

extension edges toward perpetual pat-rimony for the descendants, blood or

corporate, of creative artists. That is

decidedly not the purpose of copyright.

granting him the right to profit from his

own work. But it protects the public

interest by ensuring that one day the

right to use any work will return to the public. When Mr. Hatch laments that George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue" will soon "fall into the public

domain," he makes the public domain

sound like a dark abyss where songs

go, never to be heard again. In fact,

Copyright protects an author by

which it was obtained

ing the copyright term.

annually whether other nations' antidrug cooperation makes them eligible for American aid. The law is finally ineffective. The United States loses, by antagonizing the target countries, more than it gains from dragooning their cooperation. This time President Bill Clinton should continue to certify Mexico; he should also resume certifying Colombia. Both countries know sickening corruption, but their

Beyond that, the United States is moving, although not fast enough, to

especially among the young.

The administration has been working with Mexico, Colombia and others to make an old air force base in Panama a center for hemispheric cooperation on drugs. It is the right place - already it was the right time - to introduce a program of joint drug-policy review.

governments are making a strenuous enforcement effort all the same.

get out of the insulting practice of unilaterally certifying the performance of other, unconsulted nations. The better way is for Western Hemisphere nations to start assessing each other's record in checking demand as well as supply. The shift could give the Clinton administration further incentive to get results from its top-priority programs aimed at reducing drug consumption,

Copyright Mischief successor would be less evil than the target.

The U.S. Congress is considering a it means that the public can afford to use it freely, to give it new currency. What vexes any discussion of copyright is the idea of benefit. It is easy to see what the Disney Corp. will lose when Mickey Mouse goes out of copyright, as he will within a few years. It is harder to specify what the public will

lose if he does not go out of copyright.

The tendency is to vest the notion of creativity in the owners of copyright. But artists, including those who work for places like Disney, always emerge from the undifferentiated public, and the works in the public domain, which means nearly every work of any kind produced before the early 1920s, are an essential part of every artist's sustenance, of every person's sustenance. So far, Congress has heard no representatives of the public domain. It has apparently forgotten that its own members are meant to be those representatives. —THE NEW YORK TIMES.

Other Comment The Monica Factor

Had Bill Clinton run this town meeting [in Ohio last week], the anchors and protesters would have been handled. Maybe he could even have papered over the tough policy ques-tions his understudies could not. But he will no longer risk fielding questions in an open forum. He has given no in-terviews since the day the Lewinsky scandal broke, and can't give a press conference without a human shield like Tony Blair. - Frank Rich, commenting in The New York Times.

when a work enters the public domain

Herald Merald Cribune

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By John Deutch

Middle East would not be imbeen even partly responsible Kennedy tried it with the Bay for the assassination.

No, assassination is not a viable way to handle Saddam. What about overthrowing the Iraqi government through 'covert action', ?? Covert action has long been an important instrument of the U.S. government. It lies between open warfare and diplomacy - the

United States tries to influence

Openly support Iragi dissidents and authorize covert action.

political events in another country, but anonymously. In my judgment, covert ac-

tion has growing importance today, primarily in the war against drugs, terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. But could the much reviled CIA organize the hand of the United States concealed?

Of course, this is not the first time that some political leaders nan the target. and the public have longed for There would also need to be a simple way to get rid of a a judgment that American in- troublesome foreign leader.

fluence and interests in the Dwight Eisenhower took the covert-action approach with aired for long if the United President Sukamo in Indone-States were revealed to have sia in the late 1950s, and John

Options: Good and Bad Ways to Rid the World of Saddam

of Pigs. In 1954, Jacobo Arbenz was overthrown in Guatemala, and Colonel Edward G. Lansdale, in a legendary CIA operation, showed that covert action could defend a legitimate regime from Communist insurgency in the Philippines.

But the record is at best mixed, as experience in Iraq shows. Since 1991 the CIA has supported several dissident groups — the Kurds in the north, dissidents in London, and most recently an opposition in the Iraqi military. But Saddam is still there.

The problem is that policymakers frequently adopt covert action to avoid harder choices — direct military action or the difficult aboveboard diplomatic work necessary to replace a foreign leader.

Since the end of the Gulf War there has been a reluctance to undertake the policy of working publicly to replace Saddam. There is no obvious ular with the Arab public, and there is a risk of provoking terrorist acts against America. In the presence of ambiguity such as this - remember

Nicaragua? — covert action becomes almost impossible.

Consider the difficulty a CIA of the blocking and tackling of case officer would face in talking to a prospective leader of a

coup attempt against Saddam.
This coup leader would be unlikely to resemble Thomas Jefferson. He or she would ask: Will the United States provide military assistance in the first few hours of an attempted takeover? Whom will the United States support after the fall of Saddam? Is there any evidence of regional support (neighbors are important) for a regime after Saddam? How much money will the United States commit if the coup is successful, and how much is available in advance (in small bills)? How will the Sunnis, Shirtes and Kurds share power

in post-Saddam Iraq? Even if the case officer could answer those questions. that would be only the first hurdle. Once such a movement is begun, the CIA would like to be able to control the insurgency, and the agency knows

that it is not possible. Because of their fervor, dissident groups are notoriously action. America should work optimistic about what they can strenuously, both publicly and accomplish. They often want covertly, to nudge Iraq toward to blow up the radio station in a stable life after Saddam. town rather than the radio an overthrow of Saddam with leader to back, Saddam is pop- tower, or the railroad station rather than the railroad tracks. chemistry at the Massachu-These actions can be bloody

and are hard to control. Covert action can be helpful if it is not considered a "Hail a concerted team effort.

If Washington is prepared to make a public commitment to overthrow Saddam, it should announce its intention to form and financially support a new Iraqi dissident group.

It should work with other governments in the region to describe the political and eco-nomic benefits that would come to Iraq and the Iraqi people with a new regime, one that does not seek weapons of mass destruction or threaten the security of the region.

And it should authorize covert action appropriate to sup-

port those public efforts. Such an approach is more likely to catalyze change than an assassin's bullet.

Covert action is not an alternative to air strikes. Those strikes, despite their limits in directly bringing about Saddam's fall, are necessary to tell the world that the United States continues to oppose Saddam's reckless conduct.

Independent of any military

The writer, a professor of setts Institute of Technology, was CIA director and deputy secretary of defense in the first Clinton administration He Mary" pass at the end of a contributed this comfootball game but is instead part

The New York Times. contributed this comment to

Advocates of Human Rights Could Get Better Results

WASHINGTON — Those of us who work as human

rights advocates tend to regard ourselves and our institutions as humanity's conscience and as vigilant protectors of the world's humanitarian ideals. We are fearless in judging others. We should be equally fearless in judging ourselves.

Nowhere are human rights more at risk than in Central Africa, where the past four years have brought genocide, civil wars, assassinations, massive refugee flows and peri-

ods of bloody anarchy. During the past 20 years I have made dozens of visits to Rwanda, Congo, Uganda and Burundi, where as many as 1.5 million people have been slaughtered during that time. It is a corner of the globe that desperately needs wise human

rights advocacy. It is, I am sorry to say, a region where human rights activists are playing a potentially damaging role. We in the human rights community are so busy issuing strongly worded reports and ostracizing imperfect new governments that we risk inviting more instability

and bloodshed, not less. Take the 120,000 suspected perpetrators of genocide now in Rwanda's jails. Many have not been formally charged. Most of my colleagues view that as an egregious abuse of human rights and proof that Rwanda's leaders lack commitment to basic rules of justice. I see it differently. I regard the jailing as a human rights victory.

Most of the country's judges, attorneys and investigators were killed during the genocide or fled the country, leaving no means of trying these 120,000 prisoners. But they are still alive and awaiting trial. They have not been gunned down or chopped apart in a frenzy of revenge for the genocide many of them helped perpetrate.

By Roger P. Winter

willingness to abide by fundamental human rights principles in difficult circumstances. Amnesty International, Hu-

man Rights Watch, Physicians for Human Rights, my own U.S. Committee for Refugees and a handful of other organizations have a distinguished history of forcing international attention to the world's injustices. Human rights workers often take great personal risk to document abuses. But condemning governments — which we do well

 is not enough. At times, we need to adopt a more constructive attitude and intervene directly to improve human rights conditions.

In Rwanda, we could offer training, documentation and other assistance that might help resurrect the country's destroyed judicial system. We should, for example, use our investigative skills to collect evidence that would lead to the prosecution or release of pris-oners suspected of genocide.

We should alleviate the prison overcrowding in Rwanda by lobbying donors for money to When we issue reports re-

commending an end to "arbi-trary arrests," we should ex-plain why these arrests occur and suggest how local officials can correct a problem that many of them readily acknowledge.

Having witnessed the work of Zaire's Mobutu Sese Seko, Uganda's Idi Amin and Milton Obote and the oppressive regimes of Burundi and Rwanda's previous genocidal leaders, human rights workers have come to assume that all leaders in the region act with the worst motives — a presumptuous at-titude reminiscent of some missionaries from an earlier era who went forth as agents of culture and empire. .

of them helped perpetrate.

Instead, they have remained in jail while the Rwandan govmonize the besieged new leader ernment tries to rebuild its ju- 'of Congo, Laurent Kabila, withdicial system. The detention of in weeks of his coming to power. suspects for trial indicates a Our harsh attacks taught him to dismiss our concerns, no matter how valid they might be. I am not questioning the

value of established human rights principles, which should remain sacrosanct. Governments all over the world should permit legitimate independent efforts to monitor how they treat their citizens, and human rights workers should continue to document abuses.

But perfect leadership and capable governing systems cannot spring forth spontaneously in troubled nations that Itave known only misrule. Our edicts fall on deaf ears unless we shape our message constructively.

THE raison d'être of international human rights organizations formed in the past quarter-century was to prevent a recurrence of the ultimate crime, genocide. We failed. All our ink, paper, faxes, meetings and lobbying did not make a meaningful difference in Rwanda's 1994 genocide.

After the genocide, we failed to push hard enough to expel genocidal killers from refugee camps, and we shrank from the truth that it was worth risking bloodshed to force a separation between killers and legitimate refugees. As the head of a refugee policy agency, I feel this failure acutely.

In retrospect, my agency should have made clear to policymakers that military action was worthwhile to resolve the

Inside Rwanda, the international human rights community failed for more than a year to mount an effective human rights monitoring program because that the UN Human Rights Center have real world capabilities beyond issuing_occasional re-ports and ritual condemnations. The human rights community mistakenly assumes that it alone has the best interests of the pop-

Some leaders despise their own citizens, but sometimes

ulation at heart.

governments are more inexper- of government. Rather than ieuced than evil. Central blast these officials for their Africa's new leaders have the failures, human rights advoenormous task of reassembling cates should use their considnations that are among the poorest on earth, ethnically divided, riven with corruption and saturated with arms and shadowy groups willing to use

those arms to gain power. National armies are usually untrained and unrepresentative, national treasuries are virtually bare, and the political systems have limited experience with democracy. The shooting may have stopped, but a practical state of emergency persists.

Many new Congolese gov-ernment officials I have met possess a credible agenda for their vast country that goes beyoud the self-interest and selfenrichment of their predecessors. They appear serious about stamping out corruption and improving the lives of their fellow citizens, if only they could actually grasp the levers

erable knowledge to suggest how leaders can do better despite limited resources and ex-I have found that Congo's

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new officials are more willing to respond openly about their errors when the discussion is a constructive dialogue rather than a one-sided cataloguing of their faults. The military in knowledge the difficulties they face in waging counterinsurgency wars. Human rights failures by governments are not always deliberate.

The writer is director of the U.S. Committee for Refugees, a nonprofit humanitarian organization. This comment has been adapted from a longer article in The Washington Post.

IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

1898: Zola Verdict

PARIS — [The Herald says in an Editorial:] The greatest of all the causes célèbres that have occurred under the French Repubic came to an end yesterday [Feb. 23], after fifteen days. The verdict of the jury was in accordance with the expectations of public opinion in France. M. Zola was sentenced to a year's imprisonment and fined three thousand francs; M. Perrenx, the responsible manager of the Au-rore, which published the sensational article headed "Faccuse," was fined a similar sum but received a sentence of four months' imprisonment.

1923: Past Incarnation

CHICAGO — Mrs. Edith Rockefeller McCormick is the reincarnation of the first wife of fashionable dinner, where the

former wife of Mr. Harold F. McCormick made the revela-tion. Mrs. McCormick's experiences as a wife of Tutank Hamen were hardly less interesting than her experiences in her second incarnation. Born the daughter of John D. Rockefeller, the richest man in the world, she soon became the social queen of Chicago. During the past eight years, Mrs. McCormick has lived most of her time in Zurich. Switzerland, where she studied psychoanalysis.

1948: Jerusalem Blast

JERUSALEM - The Arab military commander of the Jerusalem district, Abdul Kadir Husseini, was reported tonight [Feb. 23] to have claimed Arab responsibility for yesterday's bombing of Ben Yehnda Street in the Jewish part of the city. The Futank Hamen, according to the Jewish death toll rose today to 'Chicago Herald's' report of a 54, and possibly a dozen persons still were buried in the ruins.

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OPINION/LETTERS

m Baghdad

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As Mr. Clinton should commune new program of support for Iraqi Ag and Kurds who oppose the regime Holding back the raids and pure

Saddam on probation one more Saggern on propanion one more as uncreases costs and risks for the link States. Any delay that Mr. Cline grants should not come free for the countries that he darit or for those countries that he sought it for him. The November Post

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1948: Jerusalen per of the 42. JERUSALEM ... A BY DERFUSION

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Back to the Scandal Sheets of Yore WASHINGTON — The American press is once again at risk — grave risk! — the Jacksonian era, a time editions each day. of abandoning its proud tradition of sobriety, fairness and impartiality. Or so say ularly exposed by the partisan for the upper middle class unmost of the people who are paid to fill air time and column inches with that sort of pronouncement.

What seems to be the problem is something referred to as the 24-hour news cycle" or "the feeding frenzy" or, more decessors, responded by bribsimply, "Matt Drudge." Reporters and editors, we are told, care less about being right than about being first, stitutions such as the Harvard scandalmongers spread nimors and falsehoods, any crackpot with a strong opinion and a little money can make Drudge, a former groceryhimself heard, and no one in store clerk without a college

public office. Thanks to the Internet. round-the-clock television a penniless immigrant; Horace news and other new media. such wild anarchy may represent the future of American journalism, the pundits warn.

well come true. But if it does, it will represent not a break from the traditions of American iournalism but a return to

them.
When Alexis de Tocqueville toured the United States in 1831 and 1832, he had high praise for the role of newspapers in sustaining democratic government.

thought they just guaranteed liberty," liberty," he wrote. "They maintain civilization."

favorably? It was the press of appeared in as many as 12

By Adam Goodheart

when politicians' sex lives paper assured its readers that the president's mother "was to this country by the British

soldiers," and when the president, like several of his preing editors to support him. Today's commentators. many of them products of in-

Crimson and the Columbia School of Journalism, look down their noses at Mr. the press exhibits the slightest respect for the dignity of high the Internet. But Mr. Drudge actually belongs to a venerable tradition. Joseph Pulitzer was Greeley dropped out of school

at 15 to work in a print shop. Like Web pages now, newspapers were cheap to set Their prediction could very up in the 19th century. And objectivity was almost un-heard of. Scandal sheets with names such as Truth's Advocate and Monthly Anti-Jackson Expositor sprang up in moments of political crisis only to vanish once they had outlived their usefulness.

The 24-hour news cycle also has a history that long antedates the Internet and 'We should underrate Cable News Network. Until their importance if we the 1920s, each major city often had more than a dozen fiercely competitive morning and evening newspapers. A What sort of press was it paper such as The Philthat impressed Tocqueville so adelphia Evening City Item

Journalism did not truly be-(real or fictitious) were reg- come a respectable profession opposition, when one news- til after World War II, when political journalism came to Here's the New York Peeper! be dominated by a few big a common prostitute, brought newspapers, networks and news services. These outlets cultivated an impartiality that, in a market with few rivals, makes good sales sense. They also cultivated the myth that the American press had al-

> model of decorum, But it was not this sort of press that the framers of the Bill of Rights set out to protect. It was, rather, a press that called Washington an incompetent. Adams a tyrant and Jefferson a fornicator.

And it was that rambunctious sort of press that, in contrast to the more genteel Euro-pean periodicals of the day, came to be seen as proof of America's republican vitality.

When Charles Dickens's fictional hero Martin Chuzzlewit stepped off the steamer the first sight he saw was a The New York Times.

motley crowd of newsboys:
"Here's this morning's
New York Sewer!" cried one.

"Here's this morning's New York Stabber! Here's the New York Family Spy! Here's the New York Private Listener! Here's the New York Plun-derer! Here's the New York Keyhole Reporter! Here's the New York Rowdy Journal!"

The Rowdy Journal's star correspondent turns out to be a scruffy character called, in the best Dickensian fashion, Mr. ways (with a few deplorable Jefferson Brick. (One imagines Dickens could also have exceptions, of course) been a made good use of "Matt Drudge.") It was the perfect name for a reporter, because in Dickens's day, the news was not delivered in a deferential whisper — it arrived like a rude democratic missile crashing through a windowpane.

For better or for worse, we now seem to be returning to the brickbat days of journalism. It will all be quite Dickensian - but perhaps a bit Tocquevillean as well.

The writer, senior editor and writer at Civilization from England in the 1840s, magazine, contributed this to

It's Tough Being a Dictator Today

NEW YORK — As Communist regimes toppled in Eastern Europe. so did their icons.

knocked over, the streets dubbed for them renamed, the museums honoring erhood of various secret police chiefs shuttered. Now in a capitalist twist, Romania is not only dismantling its cult of personality. It is selling the

offerings and graven images. Under Nicolae Ceausescu's reign. schoolchildren visited a museum of exincluding tea sets from Leonid Brezhnev. Now these items are being auctioned to raise money for the museum.

Mr. Ceausescu styled himself "the genius of the Carpathians" and claimed for himself and his barely literate wife. Elena, scientific achievements that included inspiring the invention of pop-corn. He razed historic parts of Bucharest to build a palace so large it could never be used in winter, since Romania could not afford to heat it. He ran one of the few world-class

personality cults, a competitor to those of Mao, Hitler, Kim II Sung, Idi Amin and Mobutu Sese Seko. The phrase was first applied, of course, to Staim.

The very model of modern megaThe very megaT

By Tina Rosenberg

The statues of former leaders were Korean dictator Kim Jong II. His government's news agency -- found on the Web at www.kena.co.jp --- calls the contribution to peace and broth- Mr. Kim the "greatest man in the world," a master of everything from

MEANWHILE

macroeconomies to filmmaking. The agency claimed that flowers spontaneously bloomed in October when party hibits celebrating him and his wife, conferences voted to name him maximum leader. He does not seem to be applying these talents to the problems of starving Koreans.

Mr. Kim's closest competitor is Saddam Hussein, who builds palaces in his own honor, compares himself to Nebuchadnezzar and, to claim the title of leader of Muslims everywhere, is building the world's largest mosque. President Islam Karimov in Uzbek-

istan claims the heritage of Tamerlane and has erected his portrait in Tashkent's main square. There are also Moammar Gadhafi of Libya, Hafez

The very model of modern mega-lomania is Kim Il Sung's son, the North on the North of the North

people and so often needed to glorify its leaders. Dictators now tend to be nationalists whose ethnicity wins them support. The Cold War also allowed rulers like Marshal Mobutu to get away with their idiosyncrasies. His patrons

cared only about his allegiances. Modern dictators are also more affected by world scrutiny and pressure than they were even a generation ago. A leader determined to be a rogue can be one, but it is harder when he must deal with watchdogs, from Amnesty Inter-national to CNN. Staying in the good graces of the UN Security Council and the World Bank requires adopting at least some trappings of democracy.

It seems impossible that any North Korean could really believe that the leader of a country bereft of grain could make flowers bloom in October. Perhaps no one does and leaders like Mr. Kim rule entirely through fear. But prisoners in the gulag wept when Stalin died. North Koreans never hear anyone challenge the view that their leader is all-powerful and benevolent. Their privation may encourage them to believe it, as only such belief can make sense of their suffering.

Sufferers fill churches. Some may even worship men who call themselves

The New York Times

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Europe and the Media

Regarding "Europe and the Press" (Editorial, Feb. 17): The editorial on media freedom and the Council of Europe's European Convention on Human Rights is seriously misleading.

Far from legitimizing state

censorship, Article 10 of the convention gives journalists a unique legal right to freedom of expression, which they can invoke against any govern ment interference with their freedoms at the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg.

Contrary to the editorial's argument, the court protects journalists' rights. It has affirmed a reporter's right to protect the confidentiality of his or ber sources and has underscored the watchdog role of the media, including its right to put public figures under the spotlight. Those decisions are binding on the states concerned and also have a follow-on effect on all 40 of

the council's member states. The World Press Freedom Committee report makes no clear link between Article 10 and infringement of media rights; it claims only that the cases it cites are based on laws "apparently inspired by the kind of language found in Article 10." This is far from TO A COMMENT OF THE PARTY OF TH apparent and in no sense There could be to the course of the course o

proved. Ninety-three percent of the violations do not relate to any of the Council of Europe's member countries. It is impossible to see how the organization can be held accountable for the other 96 countries mentioned, such as

Nigeria, Chile and Algeria. Most of the cases relating to our member states concern the protection of the reputation of others. This, like all the restrictions on the right of freedom of expression, cannot be used to justify state censorship. The court's case law explicitly states that freedom of expression includes the freedom to express ideas that "offend, shock or disturb

Let me finally reject the suspicion that the Council of Europe has modified its commitment to freedom of expression following its enlargement. Quite the reverse: This is an area of human rights that has been given increased attention in recent years.

DANIEL TARSCHYS. Strasbourg.

The writer is secretary-general of the Council of Europe.

Maternity Leave

Regarding "No Break for Mom" (Feb. 18):

Maternity benefits are sup posed to support women in the daunting task of caring for children while maintaining a career, In some of the countries where these benefits are most generous, however, they have the perverse effect of keeping women out of the work force. In Germany, where women

can stay at home for several years on paid leave, society has erected an onerous array of barriers to women who seek to return to work. These include restrictive shop-closing hours; little organized day care; kindergartens and elementary schools that are in session only a few hours a day, and various tax penalties.

As long as women are paid to stay at home, there is no pressure to change any of this. Almost all of the German women I know take their maternity leave pay for as long as they can and then never resume their careers.

If this is what being "so-

cially progressive" means, I think many of us will opt to be backward

SUSAN McCORMICK. Heidelberg, Germany.

Levers intended for publi cation should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.



There have been dark clouds hovering over Malaysia lately. One such cloud has cleared... the haze. Yet when we were about to enjoy blue skies again, another dark cloud set in... economic uncertainty.

We Malaysians, however, expect this to clear too. In due time. With an optimism that is borne out of four decades of incredible economic growth the world has been witness to.

With the perseverance to make changes and sacrifices. With the wisdom of solid economic fundamentals to see us through. With the determination to do everything for the economy to bounce back.

> And bounce back we will. How can we be so bullish about it? Because we've overcome other adversities before. And we'll do it again.

MALAYSIA Bullish on Bouncing Back











Is the Internet a threat or a boon to telephone companies?

Don't miss the sixth in a series of sponsored pages in the IHT on electronic business.

February 25 Business to e-Business: TELECOMMUNICATIONS If you missed the previous page, "Business to c-Business: Entreprise Communities," fax or e-mail your mailing address for a free reprint Fox: +33 1 41 43 92 13 / E-Mail: supplements@iht.com



By Craig R. Whitney
New York Times Service

PARIS — The UN secretary-general, Kofi Annan, arrived in Paris from Baghdad Monday night carrying an accord that France and other European allies said they hoped would persuade the United States to call off a bombing campaign o get Iraq to agree to UN weapons inspections. Sighs of relief from all over Europe increased

essure on the Clinton administration to cancel he bombardment, which only Britain among the illies had said it was willing to help carry out. Even before President Bill Clinton could say inything Monday about the accord, the spokes-

oman of President Jacques Chirac of France, Catherine Colonna, said that Mr. Clinton and Mr. Chirac had agreed in a 30-minute telephone conversation that it seemed to be in conformity jet Tuesday and report directly to the Security

with UN Security Council resolutions and should Council. be voted on and put into effect as soon as pos-

"According to the information now in their ossession, the accord which was signed appears to comply entirely with the United Nations resolutions and abides by the recommendations made by the five permanent members of the Security Council," Miss Colonna said.

Mr. Annan returned to Paris on the French presidential executive jet that took him to Baghdad last Friday for meetings with President Sad-dam Hussein and other officials. He was escorted

"A diplomatic solution strictly in accordance with Security Council resolutions appears possible today, and the president is delighted," Mr.

Chirac's spokeswoman said. Other French officials went further. Defense Minister Alain Richard said that if Iraq abided by the terms of the agreement and weapons inspections showed that it no longer had any nuclear, biological or chemical weapons capability.
UN economic sanctions against it should be lifted
— the only long-term incentive for Mr. Saddam

dam Hussein and other officials. He was escorted from Villacoublay Air Base to his hotel, the luxury Crillon, by France's special envoy on the Iraq crisis, Bertrand Dufourcq.

French officials say.

Having pushed hard for both Mr. Clinton and Mr. Saddam to agree to give Mr. Annan one last chance to call off the dogs of war, Mr. Chirac has an enormous stake in U.S. acceptance of the deal,

France participated in the 1991 war to get Iraq out of Kuwait, but with 55 percent of the French public opposed to siding with the United States in the latest crisis, according to a poll published by the daily Le Figaro on Monday morning, the United States will take a lot of criticism here if it rejects the agreement.

French newspaper and radio and television reports portrayed Mr. Annan's trip as an effort to defuse a crisis between Baghdad and Washington, as if Europe and the rest of the world were unaffected by the possibility that Iraq had weapons of mass destruction and the capacity to

deliver them well beyond its borders.

European Union foreign ministers meeting in Brussels on Monday gave the accord brought back by Mr. Annan their blessing in advance, welcoming it and expressing their appreciation to

"It seems that the decisive appeal from the international community has been met, the appeal for unlimited access to all inspection sites, said the German foreign minister, Klaus

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Of Mr. Annan's mission, Mr. Kinkel said, "There is reason to be optimistic." The German defense minister, Volker Ruehe, speaking more cautiously, said, "The text has to be examined." and above all, we need to see in practice this Saddam Hussein holds to the promises he has

Guenter Verheugen, a foreign policy spokes man for the Social Democratic opposition in the German Parliament, said: "World opinion will mean that this deal must be accepted. The Amer icans would find themselves in dangerous iso lation if, pointing to some trifling detail or an other, they insisted on a military strike."

Another Storm Spent, **Baghdad Shrugs It Off**

What Will Happen Will Happen' Is the Motto

By Youssef M. Ibrahim New York Times Service

BAGHDAD — After negotiations appeared to have averted a U.S. military strike, the people of Baghdad seemed gool and placid Monday — almost non-

In stores and coffee shops, people took it all in stride as they glanced at television screens that showed other Arabs supporting them and international diplomacy working full blast.

Even during the last four weeks, when missiles over Iraq, hardly anyone here nushed to hoard food. And the value of the dollar, which usually soars in times of danger, has actually failen.

Maher Yaacoub knew Sunday that things were looking up. He could see it by glancing at the reports taken from the agreement signed Monday between CNN that were flashing on the television the United Nations and Iraq over set at Yasser Almeheidi's electric shop just behind the rickety table where Mr. Yaacoub peddles single cigarettes from

open packs.
The CNN reports, complete with Arabic translation, gave hourly details of talks in Baghdad with the United Nations secretary-general, Kofi Annan, asserting that they were going well. And tightly controlled Iraqi media start showing uncensored reports from a mait is a clear sign things are swinging

Still, Mr. Yaacoub said philosophically: "What will happen will happen. We have been there before."

·Overall, some 60 people interviewed agreement." during the weekend appeared fatalistic, skeptical and even defiant despite assurances from their government that there was some hope after seven years of severe economic sanctions.

Egypt.

The 22-nation Arab League said it welcomed the agreement. "The option

"My dear friend," said Kazem Hani, 24, a pharmacist, "we are at the mercy of America, whose president is surrounded by people who hate Muslims and Arabs. who has a sexual scandal on his hands that he wants to resolve at our expense and who is pressured by generals to try their new toy missiles on somebody. With odds like that our only refuge is God, not, excuse me, Kofi Annan.

The pharmacist was sipping tea Sunday afternoon with a colleague in Soraya's Pharmacy, off the main shoptwo kind of medication: a painkiller and ers in the world.'

an anti-depressant that can only be dis-

pensed with a doctor's prescription.

As 13 clients came in during a twohour period, the two pharmacists were able to respond only to three requests for painkillers. To the rest the answer was the same: "Sorry, brother. I don't have it." The customers shuffled out in the

are talking to someone who has not eaten a banana in seven years," he said. "I last had meat a month ago. When I come to dling cigarettes on this street to sup-plement their incomes. Do you believe anyone here is worried about gas?"

■ Arab Officials Are Pleased

Leading Arab statesmen welcomed weapons inspections, saying that it averted the specter of another war. The As-

Palestinian officials said that the standoff had diminished the status of the

the United States," said the Palestinian higher education minister. Hanan everyone in Iraq knows that when the Ashrawi. "It must understand that some jor "imperialistic American" network, total bias toward Israel - have affected its credibility and ability to maneuver in

Overall, the Arab worldwas relieved. Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, hailed the accord as "a very successful

for a political solution has averted a very dangerous twist, which would have crisis. pushed the entire region into a catastrophe," the group's secretary-general.

Kuwait said the agreement was good not only for the Iraqis but also for the Kuwaiti people. "It averts the dangers to the area and makes Iraq comply with 28,000. Security Council resolutions, said the "What foreign minister, Sheikh Sabah al

In Damascus, Al Ba'ath, a Syrian ping artery, Saadoun Avenue. The government-run newspaper, called the largely empty shelves contained only agreement 'a triumph for all peace lov-

reached this agreement, not the saber-

of course you can do a lot more with

diplomacy backed up by firmness and

climbed down, and went on to implicitly

criticize the UN weapons inspectors and

the commission's executive chairman.

Richard Butler, by saying that even with an agreement, "individuals don't

But Mr. Annan had a quick retort.

Irag and Unscom have had a difficult

relationship at times," he said. "From

Richard Butler right down, it is a task,

whoever holds it, where there will be

work out a practical, effective instru-

mental relationship to get the work done.

What we are discussing here is a better

and enhanced relationship between Iraq

the press, cut off one questioner who

wanted to know how Iraq managed to

change its mind about its ban on off-

have agreed upon," he said. "So don't rush to conclusions."

A question from a British reporter that suggested the West had little reason to

trust Iraqi promises provoked a sharp

diatribe from Mr. Aziz about how suc-

cessive British governments have over the years "backed down on commit-

Then Mr. Annan was asked by an Arab reporter what message he had for

young people after what he had gleaned in this clash of Western and Arab in-

interdependent one, we need to be sen-

sitive to the concerns of others," he said.

"We need to understand other cultures.

We need to think in much broader terms

than our own narrow confines, and real-

"In today's world, which is a rather

ments they gave to the Arabs.

terests. He spoke to both camps.

"First of all, you don't know what we

Mr. Aziz, rattled by the directness of

and the Unscom inspectors.

But what is important is for us to

change their nature in an overnight."

Mr. Aziz then denied that Iraq had

rattling," Mr. Annan chimed in:

some difficulties.

Continued from Page 1

be avoidable. Quizzed about whether he had acquiesced to Iraqi demands for a finite schedule for arms inspections at so-called presidential sites, the secretary-general said: "I can say categorically that there are no time limits or deadlines on arms inspections in the

Would the United States buy an apparently incomplete package of concessions from Iraq, since only eight sites were defined?

"The agreement I have reached with the government of Iraq I consider balanced, and I consider that it is in conformity with Security Council resolu-tions," Mr. Annan said, after putting down a questioner he implied was en-

gaging in "polemics."
"And therefore," he continued, "I hope it will be acceptable to all members of the council."

The secretary-general, in a performance that could not pass unnoticed in a theatrical part of the world - or in Washington, where everyone's thoughts seemed to be - startled his Iraqi audience by describing his talks with President Saddam as "very, very frank" -usually a diplomatic hint that no punches were pulled.

"The president was very well in-formed and was in full control of the facts," said Mr. Annan blithely, as several Iraqis winced at the candor.

Did he seek the support of Secretary of State Madeleine Albright in telephone conversations this weekend?

'First of all, I did not seek encouragement or otherwise," Mr. Annan said, in his soft and lilting West African voice. We did talk about the stages of the discussion: where we are and where we are likely to end up. The last time I spoke to her I said, we do have a text, which we'll be signing today. She did have some questions, which I addressed, and I think we will be talking further when I get back to New York."

When Mr. Aziz - who focused in his opening statement on Iraq's first pri- ize that in this interdependent world, no ority: getting the UN embargo lifted as one can afford to think in purely local soon as possible — sought to make the terms.'

same resigned way they shuffled in. Does anybody around here ask for gas masks? Mr. Hani laughed bitterly. "You

has appeared that a formidable Amer- work every morning here, I say good ican armada was getting ready to shower morning to six engineers who are ped-

sociated Press reported from Cairo.

United States in the Middle East. "Maybe this can be an eye-opener for

of its assumptions about this region -

"It is a very good agreement," echoed President Hosni Mubarak of

Esmet Abdel Meguid, said.

Ahmad al Jaber as Sabah.

ANNAN: UN Leader Steals the Show point that it was "diplomacy that

side of the agreement. Republicans said that while it would probably defuse the immediate crisis, it 'You can do a lot with diplomacy, but

> the Senate majority leader, Trent Lott of Mississippi, a Republican. The Clinton administration, he said, is now "in a box" — faced with two unpalatable alternatives: accepting a possibly flawed agreement or defying strong opposition among U.S. allies to the use of force.

> action led by the United States, coupled

with mounting diplomatic pressure from the UN arms commission, but they will the UN and several of its members, Iraq be accompanied by diplomats represent-Saddam had agreed that the UN Special appeared to have given in on most of the ing the five permanent members of the conclusions about Iraq's capabilities.

> the United States in its threats of military force if deemed necessary. The president spoke to Mr. Annan late

> Russia praised the agreement, and France said it hoped the accord lived up

to expectations.

Britain said it was encouraged but

• Iraq agrees to permit inspections of the eight presidential sites, including however, voiced sharp skepticism that buildings and grounds in three Baghdad compounds; three around Tikrit, the city north of Baghdad where Mr. Saddam was born; one in Mosul, on the edge of the Kurdish region in northern Iraq, and

• Iraq drops its insistence — a po-UN inspectors to visit the presidential sites. This shift reportedly came only after Mr. Annan asked the ambassadors of France and Russia to make it clear to Iraq that their countries would no longer

Search teams will include experts of argument" in the future.

DIPLOMACY: No Clear Outlook on Iraq

Continued from Page 1

and with whose help - in developing nuclear, chemical and biological

weapons and long-range missiles. If the confrontation had escalated to military strikes, much of the evidence might have been destroyed, and the chances of getting Baghdad to agree to the re-entry of UN inspectors would have been slim.

In that sense, the diplomatic deal is the best outcome for avoiding upheaval in the Gulf, even short-lived, and maintaining collective Western unity.

But Mr. Saddam also has reason to be satisfied. Even if only marginally, he has succeeded in easing the U.S. grip on his nation, according to diplomats in Paris from Arab countries hostile to the Iraqi leader.

As a result of the confrontation, progress in completing the arms inspections will be constantly exposed to sharper international scrutiny. When UN specialists wanted to give Iraq a clean bill of health in the nuclear area last summer, the Clinton administration blocked the move lest it ease Iraq's isolation.

In future, U.S. diplomats acknowledged, Washington will find it harder to maintain these tough unilateral tactics at the United Nations to keep maximum pressure on Iraq. Now France, Russia and other countries have promised to take a closer interest in the process, a change bound to increase the psycho-

logical pressure for accelerating the job. The inspections might have been nearing their end anyway if Iraq had cooperated. Richard Butler, the commission's head, said recently that "we know the remaining questions to ask and we know that the Iraqis know the answers."

So within months, especially if more

Tony Blair of Britain, who has stood by dilution of the strong American presence deflate the wilder caricatures of a trigon the inspection teams, the source of repeated Iraqi complaints. The deal apparently includes

clauses about respecting the dignity and sovereignty of Iraq. This reportedly is in response to Iraqi charges that inspectors confidence in Washington's ability to including residences, like police mounting a criminal raid.

Even so, many questions remained: Will there be new problems in a few weeks when inspectors seek access to other presidential palaces beyond the eight presidential sites? How firm an undertaking had Iraq provided not to block inspectors? How large will the had emerged during Mr. Annan's three teams be? Will the UN commission maintain complete control over its in-

spections? Mr. Rubin, asked about diplomats' joining the UN inspectors, called it an unobjectionable "detail." "That's a "That's a flourish, a bell or a whistle or whatever

you want to call it," he said.

Both Britain and the United States said that the agreement would vindicate their threats of force against Mr. Sad-

In Brussels, after a meeting of European Union foreign ministers cautiously welcomed the accord, Foreign Secretary Robin Cook of Britain said the EU would insist on a new Security Council resolution on arms inspections so that Mr. Saddam would have "no room for

agencies are lobbying for cellular tracking

data. The FBI is pushing for access to

position information when it has a warrant

For the most part, proponents play up the safety benefits of the cellular emer-

Dan Phythyon, chief of the Federal

Communications Commission's Wire-

less Telecommunications Bureau, said

said was a major reason people buy cel-

lular phones. Even so, he said, "there also

could be privacy concerns that emerge, which the FCC may need to address."

different potentials for abuse, some pri-

vacy advocates say it may be dangerous

to wait until technical standards are set to

address privacy concerns. Others argue that the battle should shift to legal stan-

with whichever technology is adopted.

think up new and better products that use

The companies are always going to

But because the two technologies have

gency call design, known as E911.

to tap a cellular phone.

teams are put on the job, Iraq could have a clean bill of health. Without bending UN rules, Iraq's challenge has almost certainty brought the end of sanctions closer. Arab and European diplomats said.

The prospect alone is enough to manage the could be prospected as a could be compared to the could be considered.

prove Iraq's borrowing power and en; hance Mr. Saddam's leverage.

For the United States and its European and Arab allies, the tactics that worked in this crisis — notably, U.S. readiness to wield the stick while most allies emphasized carrots — may backfire if they, harden into divergent policies, diplo-

mats said Monday.

Beyond finishing the current disame ament program in Iraq, as now seems feasible, the United Nations is then committed to enforcing long-term surveillance.

The Clinton administration "is never likely to have anything to do with Iraq aslong as Saddam is alive," Samuel Berger, the national security adviser, said

Echoing U.S. claims, Foreign Sec-retary Robin Cook of Britain cited the threat of military pressure as the key. factor. "It is a justification of the strategy we have been pursuing: If there had been no pressure on Saddam we would not have got a deal."

In contrast, France — and to a greater degree, Russia - make no secret of their view that Iraq has the potential for becoming a political and commercial part-. ner. Paris has claimed credit for "never giving up on peace," according to For-eign Minister Hubert Vedrine. He said this month that even if Iraq left the world no choice but armed force, France would not take part in the attack or provide. military support.

French voters massively opposed air. strikes, and the French authorities did. almost nothing to persuade the public that Iraq's weapons programs posed a serious international threat — even though the French research laboratory specializing in chemical weapons cor-roborated the UN commission's alarmed

The fact that a political solution nowseems likely to be acceptable, evenspoken at length with Prime Minister shift could be portrayed by Iraq as a hailed in Washington, should promptly ger-happy superpower looking for a fight to draw attention from President Bill Clinton's domestic problems.

Even so, public opinion, especially have sometimes barged into buildings, handle the crisis as the confrontationdragged on.

Partly a public relations problem, U.S. analysts said, the lack of solidarity with Washington may reflect a deeper trend in. which European and Arab countries, conscious of their own shrinking capability to. cope with foreign crises, tend to consider. that force is not an effective option.

JOBS: U.S. Ponders Quotas

Continued from Page 1 tration was negative. But confidential:

White House documents show that the administration is now considering proposals that would increase the quota by 50 percent or more. The administration contends that any increase should be linked to education, training and new protections for American workers. The debate comes in the context of a

tight labor market. Overall, the national

unemployment rate last year, averaging. 4.9 percent, was the lowest since 1973. One industry group, the Information Technology Association of America, sees "a severe shortage of competent and skilled information-technology workers." It says there are 346,000 vacancies, representing 10 percent of all the jobs for computer programmers and

engineers and systems analysts.

The Commerce Department predicts that the United States will need more than 1.3 million new information-technology workers - an average of 138,000 a year - in the coming decade.

The Labor Department would prefer to keep the cap at its current level, but might give priority within the quota to industries! that have shortages of skilled workers.

High-technology companies say that. while they support more education and training for Americans, they need skilled labor immediately and therefore want to bring in additional foreign workers.

Hal Ponder, a lawyer with the AFL-CIO's department for professional employees, said organized labor opposed increasing the quota until there was more careful study of the problem.

"We question whether there is a shortage of information-technology workers," he said in an interview.

Norman Matloff, a professor of computer science at the University of Calimpsey, senior counsel at the Center for fornia at Davis, said that many high-Democracy and Technology, a civil-liberties group. "We should concentrate on the legal standard for government access."

The property of the control of the Law enforcement is right that this eign workers and often discriminate against American computer program-mers over the age of 40, who are perceived as requiring higher salaries.



the worthlessness of public opinion, the Iraqis celebrating Monday in Baghdad over the UN inspection accord.

LRAU: Clinton to Give Annan's Accord With Saddam a Chance

Continued from Page 1

Commission for arms inspections could start visiting eight so-called "presidenstart visiting eight so-called "presidenMr. Clinton said Monday that he had tain, France, China and Russia. That tial sites" almost immediately.

Access to the sites and the composition of the inspection teams were among the chief disputes that triggered the

reviewing terms of the accord. At the with President Boris Yeltsin of Russia Pentagon, officials also said the buildup and President Jacques Chirac of in the Gulf area would continue. About France. 500 more U.S. soldiers were en route to Kuwait, to join a regionwide force of

Whatever happens, we will be looking for action, not words" from Iraq,

The tentative agreement, worked out in a three-hour meeting in Baghdad between Mr. Annan and Mr. Saddam, was cautiously welcomed in most national

Some U.S. congressional leaders, Mr. Saddam could be trusted to fulfill his

appeared to let Mr. Saddam off too easily. 'It may not be good enough,' said

Facing the imminent threat of military

But U.S. officials said they were still Sunday and was also conferring Monday

wanted more details. Foreign ministers of said James Rubin, the State Department the European Union, meeting in Brussels, spokesman. the European Union, meeting in Brussels, welcomed the accord. While its details have not officially been made public, The New York Times said that these outlines days of meetings in Baghdad:

> one in the southern port city of Basra. tential "deal breaker," U.S. diplomats had said — on a time limit of 60 days for

accept such a deadline.

TETHER: Cellular-Phone Firms Can Tell Where You've Been United States is that law-enforcement

Continued from Page 1

Renata Cosby, a spokeswoman for Swisscom, the nation's dominant phone company, said last week that the company released such information only on a judge's order. Switzerland, like most European countries but unlike the United States, has privacy laws prohibiting collection of personal data with-

ont a specific business purpose.

Police elsewhere have found such information useful. A London prosecutor, Victor Temple, said he had used data from cell-phone records to convict a drug dealer of murder last year. The records showed calls converging at the scene of the murder, which helped to persuade a

jury that the man's alibi was false. In the United States, those who favor installing more advanced position-sensing equipment in cellular systems generally cite emergency services as a reason. By April of this year, the Federal Communications Commission will require cell phone companies to include approximate position information when passing along a call made to the "911" emergency-services number, and within three and a half years, the companies will have to be able to specify the caller's

location to within 125 meters (400 feet).

the first phase is simply the location of the cellular antenna that is processing the

The position information required by

call. In rural areas, a single antenna can serve an area, or cell, with a 25-mile (40kilometer) radius; in cities, they serve cells only a few blocks in diameter.

But the second phase, which will begin in October 2001, will require special equipment. The industry is experimenting with two basic technologies that have very different implications for privacy; an "infrastructure" solution, in which position-sensing equipment would be installed on each antenna tower, and a E911 would improve safety, which he "handset" solution that would incorporate global position sensing technology in each cellular telephone.

Privacy advocates prefer the handset solution because it would allow the caller to control when his or her position was given out Any system built into the tower's electronics, on the other hand, would be able to monitor the precise location of a cell phone whenever it was turned on. This dards because limits would be required

information could be archived or used to build sophisticated customer profiles. But the Federal Communications Commission is subtly, if inadvertently, location information," said James Dediscouraging phone companies from adopting the handset technology by re-quiring them to be able to find the position of two-thirds of all cellular calls, including calls made with old handsets. Global-position sensing would be avail-

able only with new phones. What bothers privacy advocates in the

technology may help track kidnappers."
he said. "But it's also going to help the kidnappers stalk their victims.

المكذامن الأمل

Of Mr Annal's mission, Mr. Kintel There is reason to be optimistic. The C

her, they more a on a military strike"

No Clear Outlook on lag

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PERMIT!

Between Creativity and Profit: The London Pacemakers





exploded on slender skirts and dresses.

Monday was a wondrous vision of a

medieval princess, her dress spun as

though from her golden locks, woolly

coats the texture of old gold tapestries or

the gray stones of ancient castle walls.

The show's venue at a gilded theater and

spider's-web long dresses made the

knits seem more grand opera than winter

woollies. But as a romantic concept,

is a return to femininity. For Sonia

Nuttall, that meant reworking the dress

as straight dark shift, with a swoop

down at the neckline, a trickle of se-

quin decoration or a splash of flat com-

puter-print flower. Any hint of sweet-

ness was then cut with heavy boots or

sneakers and by interspersing the

dresses with easy pants, shirts and

sweaters. Her road forward from min-

imalism is familiar from Europe's av-

ant-garde designers: contrasts of tex-

tures, like a satin ribbon drawing in

jersey pants; sparkle sprinkled on knits

With femininity to the fore, the skirt

and the focus on detail.

If the early shows have a message, it

they were exceptional creations.

Creative knitting is Lainey Keogh's

By Suzy Menkes International Herald Tribune

ONDON - With cantilevered bosoms thrust high - and befeathered heads even higher the models strutted the catwalk to detonate the European fashion sea-

Philip Treacy's hat show of corkscrew quills and sculpted plumes had every essential ingredient of a hot London fashion show: whimsy, creativity. craftsmanship and the inevitable eccentric sitting front row in a flying saucer hat with a Madame Butterfly kirnono. And, oh yes, even a royal: the elegant Princess Michael of Kent.

London now sets the fashion pace, launching the fall-winter 1998 international shows that continue in Milan. Paris and New York over the next month. With 47 official designer shows and a dozen other provocative off-Broadway presentations — London is on such a roll that in the fall. Saks Fifth Avenue will endorse Cool Britannia with a major British fashion promotion.

Yet against this positive background, British fashion still has to solve its essential dilemma: how to turn its creative genius into a buck.

That is now the mission of Tony Blair's British government, which has set up a think tank to work out how to harvest its designer talent rather than see its fashion schools as a seed bed for international companies, from Paris couture houses through Donatella Versace, who has been trawling through

London's bright hopes.
The Creative Industries Task Force, under the wing of the Culture Ministry, has co-opted Paul Smith, one of the rare British companies making serious money, with a 1997 sales of £171 million (\$278 million). The typical British designer label has annual revenues of

only £1 million to £2 million. We are fantastic at creativity, because of all the lateral thinking and free B2 JUNE 1 spirit, but looking this week at the sheer volume of glamour and all the adulation, the business still isn't there, 's said Smith, who shows his fledgling women's wear (already worth £12 million) on the runway for the first time on Tuesday.

The conundrum of London fashion was summed up by the witty and se-ductive little black dresses, their bosoms sculpted like race-car hoods, that were the backdrop to Treacy's gravitydefying halos of feathers. The dresses were designed by Antony Price, an accomplished cutter, an ebullient personality and the darling of his private cli-

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25 Matter to go to

ACROSS

1 What jazz ends

entele since the 1970s. Yet if his current discussions with Versace lead to the contract he longs for, it will be the first time that Price has had any investment in his talent

has been making a silk purse out of a sow's ear," said Price. "Of course I pilot, if that is what they want.

why the current courtship of young talent is bittersweet to British fashion's founding fashion generation. Front row at Treacy was Zandra Rhodes, who has never succeeded in turning her name into a money-spinning brand. And on Sat-urday, Vivienne Westwood's secondary Red Label line showed how she might at last make money from her notoriety. She sent out a vivacious collection with all the hallmarks of her style: curvy shapes, saucy details and just a hint of pro-vocation in draped jersey dresses spiked with metallic arrows or dresses unpeeling in a spiral of zippers.

talent, who would be chosen?

What about the design duo of Suzanne Clements and Inacio Ribeiro? They

British task force asks: How to turn

sent out a strong show Sunday, as cool as the blocks of ice at the end of the runway. With a slim, graphic silhouette, based on the Shakespearean doublet, and aquirky sense of color and decoration, the look was original and mod-

At the heart of the collection were body-conscious knits in blocks of different colors. But there was also fine tailoring, especially crenellated jackets with cropped pants and precise coats, wool-embroidered at cuffs or back to enhance a light-handed folkloric theme. That included furry backless boots, a peasant blouse worn with a sequined skirt and plaid dresses beaded at neck and hem. The strength was in the details and, taken separately, each piece was a little jewel.

Matthew Williamson also has that sense of detail and decoration. Although his wine-red palette was less appealing than his chalky summer colors, he makes a shapely sweater, this season with firework embroideries that also

thing and the collection she showed

'I have had no money — all my life could do Versace - I am an experienced

Price's story is not unique - which is

If Blair's government persuaded financial investors to back young British

is making a comeback and was given a commercial spin at Nicole Farhi, a company with a serious business, making £60 million at retail in 1997. Farhi followed the silhouette laid down by Marc Jacobs, Jil Sander and Helmut Lang, showing sweaters with pleated skirts or genius into a buck? simple pants, all in shades of gray.

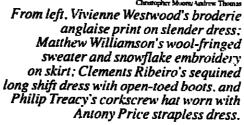
Neat sweaters with high V-necks shown with soft skirts or pants made a good look at Jean Muir, although the show got off to a shaky start with an awkward take on Alexander Mc-

Queen's signature wing-shoulders. Other designers went one of two routes: acceptable commercial clothes that are pleasing to women but don't move fashion forward; or those desperate-to-be-different ideas, like turnng a jacket lapel into a sleeve. Jasper Conran's sleek collection, with tidy tailoring and leaf-print decoration, went into the former bracket; the awkward cutting and draping at Copperwheat Blundell and Boudicca's experimental shapes fitted the second.

Turning the London look into money is the mission of John Wilson, chief executive of the British Fashion Council. With the combined annual sales of British designers up from £185 million in 1990 to £600 million in 1997, and 60 percent of the clothes exported, Wilson feels that investors in Britain should now take British designers as seriously as they are perceived abroad.

O New York Times/Edited by Will Short-







BOOKS

ALL THE WAY TO HEAVEN: An American Boyhood in the Himalayas

By Stephen Alter. 317 pages. \$25. Henry

Reviewed by Elizabeth Hightower

S a boy, Stephen Alter fished with his father, got carsick on long family drives, and explored the forested hills behind his house with a pet cocker spaniel named Schnapps. He had a girlfriend named Sue, with whom he scouted for secret swimming holes. All perfectly normal - except that the hills behind his house were the Himalayas. The swimming pools turned out to be Hindu cremation sites. His dog slept in the house because of hungry leopards, and the family car was an open Jeep, a veteran of India's border wars with Pakistan. And Alter and his dad fished the sacred Ganga River with surfcasting rods, catching four-foot-long mahseer

and dodging corpses floating to the sea. Born in 1956 and raised in a community called Landour, just outside the hill station of Mussoorie, Alter was the son and grandson of Presbyterian missionaries working in India since 1917. Populated by a hilarious cast of prudes and crazies, Landour is a wonderful mix of the chaste and the raucous, the tolerant and the judgmental. Methodists, Mennonites, Baptists, Lutherans, Quakers, Disciples of Christ, and Pentecostals speaking in tongues — they're all here. piled on the hillsides of Landour, bickering about how best to convert the Hindus and attending potluck dinners and school plays.

Alter and his brothers grew up playing side by side with local Hindu and Muslim children, their mother tongue a pidgin dialect of English and Hindi. But they were always reminded of who they were: "Sin was something that lay in wait for us, just beyond the boundaries of the hillside, lurking in the bazaar or hovering in the distance like a dust haze over the plains," Alter writes. "Many of the missionaries looked upon India as a country full of sinful heathen who were doomed to hell. As soldiers of the cross they had to set a good example, fighting tempta-

tion at every turning of the path." "In many ways," Alter writes, Landour was like a small town in middle America - Winesburg, Ohio, transported to the first range of the Himalayas. On the surface it was a quiet, pious world of motherly white women who always smiled at us when we met them on the path. . . . A tribal loyalty existed on the hillside, a code of behavior and courtesy which was selfconsciously American, reflecting the neighborly attitudes of a mythic world which only existed in story books."

Perhaps this sense of entitlement and ease was provided by the Hindu coolies (some of the book's most engaging characters), who did the wash, walked the kids to school, and literally carried the Western women to and from their summer houses. Visiting Alter's house every day was a procession of "walpeddling their wares, first the

bread and milk wallahs, next the mutton. fish and pork wallahs, followed by the egg, cheese, new spaper, fabric, charcoal and junk wallahs, with a team of mattress-fluffers bringing up the rear.

The book begins with Alter, a miserable freshman at Wesleyan University in 1974, hitchhiking to Boston to visit a cousin. He accepts a ride from a sinister stranger - one who seems to know everything about his life in Landour, "I

felt completely vulnerable," Alter writes, "as if he had gained access to my memories and there was nothing I could hide from him." But after pages of suspense, Alter abruptly ends the chapter by confessing, "To this day the driver in the red Buick remains a mystery for which I have no explanation." Alter should have been on the lookout for a red herring, not

Alter ultimately leaves us hanging: The book ends as it begins, with a lonely kid yearning for a hill town far away. After falling in love with Mussoorie and. coming to like the boy in the Himalayas we worry about the Wesleyan freshman. so out of place in an America not his own. Now that kid has grown up to be a. writer-in-residence at MIT, who traveled back to Mussoorie on a grant to research this book. But he never mentions what happened in between: Did he return to his Himalayan home? What about hisparents and brothers? What has his mis-, sionary community become? It's a tribuse to the vibrancy of Alter's portrait of life in Mussoorie that we care so much.

Elizabeth Hightower, deputy editor of Preservation magazine, wrote this for The Wushington Post.

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

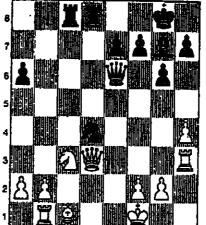
N decisively winning the 73d running Lof England's traditional Hastings International Tournament, Matthew Sadler mowed down the competition tallying 7-2. When the Dec. 29 to Jan. 11 event ended, there was a gap of a point and a half between him and the two players who tied for second.

In the fourth round, Sadler challenged a favorite anti-Sicilian method of Eduardas Rozentalis, a Lithuanian grandmaster, and showed his opponent he understood even more about it. Chalk up an important point.

In recent years 2 c3 has become remarkably popular against the Sicilian Defense. It helps White avoid being saddled with a backward c pawn in various endgames, and it aims for a broad center with d4 rather than the usual 2 Nf3, 3 d4 and ...cd 4 Nd4.

The most challenging response is .Nf6, which makes White choose either the tame 3 d3 or the advance with 3 e5, which may be premature. Rozentalis is known as a connoisseur

SADLER/BLACK



ROZENTALISAWHITE Position after 25 Rbl

SICILIAN DEFENSE								
White Roz'ils	Black Sadler	White Rez'lis	Black Sadler					
1 e4 2 c3	c5 Nf6	15 Kf1 16 Nge2	g6 Bg7 Bc2					
3 e5 4 d4	Nd5 cd	17 Ng3 18 Qd2	e4					
5 cd 6 Bc4	d6 Nb6	19 Nge4 20 Ne4	Be4 Qd5 0-0					
7 Bb5 8 Nc3 9 d5	Nc6 de a6	21 Qd3 22 h4 23 Rh3	Rfd8					
10 Ba4 11 Qa4	Na4 b5	24 Nc3 25 Rb1	Rac8 Qe6 Nb5					
12 Nb5 13 Nc3	Bd7 Nd4	26 Qc2 27 bc	Bc3 Rc3					
14 Qd1	Bf5	28 Resign						

of 7 Bb5 and likes to answer 7...Bd7 with the enterprising 8 e6!? All well and good, but on the only previous occasion that;
7...Nc6! was tried against him the game. ran identically with this one through 14. Qdl and soon ended in a draw. But this

time he was upstaged by the Englishman's 14...Bf5! in place of 14...g6.

Returning to 12...Bd7, Rozentalis did not play 13 Nd6 ed 14 dc because 14...Be6 yields Black the bishop pair while the advanced white c pawn is not, easily supported.

Since 15 Qa4 Qd7 16 Qd7 Kd7 would. produce a very strong endgame for Black, Rozentalis took the alternative with 15 Kf1, despite the uncomfortable.

location of his king.
Sadler thrust 18...e4!, letting Rozentalis get one of his bishops after. 19 Nge4 Be4 20 Ne4, but emphasizing his lead in development after 20...Qd5, in spite of the reduced material. It was.

surely the quickest way home.

After 23...Rac8, Sadler threatened.

24...Qa2! 25 Ra2 Rc1, as well as. 24...Nc2!, either one winning outright. Rozentalis despaired of 24 Bg5 Qc6! when 25 Nc3 Nb3 wins.

If 24 Bd2, then 24...Nc2 25 Qd5 Rd5 26 Rd1 Bb2 wins a pawn for Sadler. After 25 Rb1 Nb5 26 Qc2 Bc3! 27 bc Rc3!Rozentalis gave up.

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HSBC Sees Tough Year Over Loans

Bank Triples Provisions As It Posts 8% Profit Rise

By Philip Segal

HONG KONG - HSBC Holdings PLC, the global banking powerhouse that makes most of its money in Asia, said its net profit rose 8 percent in 1997. less than expected, and it more than tripled its provisions for bad debts in Asia and warned that 1998 would be

HSBC, the largest banking company in both Britain and Hong Kong, is now based in London, but the company traces its origins to Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp. Its net profit rose to £3.36 billion (\$5.5 billion), the holding company said. Analysts had expected an increase of at least 10 percent.

The results were announced after the stock market closed higher in Hong Kong on hopes of solid earnings from HSBC. The company's stock rose 4 Hong Kong dollars to close at 204 dollars (\$26.35). In London, where the stock also is traded, it rose 47 pence to close at £16.13.

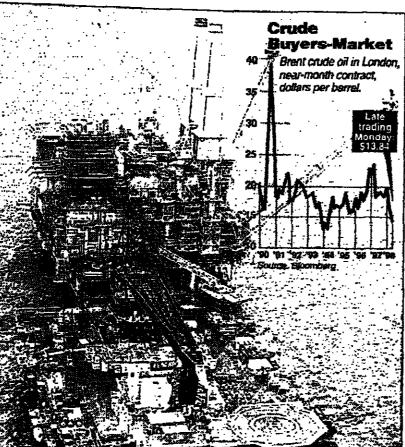
HSBC indicated in its earnings report that the most serious consequences of the region's financial crisis had yet to be seen. Given that the company is one of Hong Kong's healthiest banks, that could spell poor results for many of the region's other banks, most of which report their earnings this week and in

early March.
The coincidence of weak exchange rates, significantly lower stock-ex-change levels and high interest rates in many countries," said William Purves, HSBC chairman, "has led to a deterioration in credit quality, the full impact of which is only beginning to

The company said its exposure to borrowers in the Asian countries that sought bailouts from the International Monetary Fund in 1997 — South Korea, Indonesia and Thailand - represented less than 2 percent of its assets at the end

Earnings at HSBC's largest unit, the

See HSBC, Page 18



A Peace Dividend From the Gulf

Prices Plunge to 4-Year Low in a Market Flooded With Oil Products

By Tom Buerkle

iumal Herald Tribuse

LONDON -- Call it the Gulf peace dividend.

News of a tentative agreement on weapons-site inspections between the United Nations and Iraq sent the price of oil plunging to its lowest level in four

Although the risk of conflict remains unless the agreement is endorsed by the United States and other members of the UN Security Council, oil prices are likely to stay under pressure because global markets are awash in crude oil, analysts said.

The trend is good news for consumers in the industrialized countries of the West and Asia because it helps to lower oil import bills and ease inflationary pressures. But it threatens severe economic pressure for oil producers, es-pecially in the Middle East.

The price of North Sea Brent for April delivery fell Monday to \$13.83 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange from \$14.37 on Friday.

In New York, crude oil for April delivery was at \$15.36, down 88 cents

crude fetched more than \$21 a barrel. In inflation-adjusted terms, the price

was the lowest since oil began flowing from Britain's North Sea fields in For Saudi Arabia, the world's largest

producer, a continuation of current price levels would slash oil revenue by as much as \$10 billion this year, to \$47 billion, according to Petroleum Finance Co., a Washington-based consultancy. That would strain the ability of the Saudi monarchy to use government spending and subsidies to keep a lid on social and political pressures, including Islamic fundamentalism.

"The Saudis are very vulnerable to this," said Vahan Zanoyan, head of Petroleum Finance.

Other exporters also will feel the strain. Every \$1 drop in the price of a barrel of oil slashes oil revenue by \$800 million a year for Iran and \$700 million for Venezuela.

For the exporters, almost everything is working against them,

Unseasonably warm weather in many parts of the Northern Hemisphere has slashed demand for heating oil this winter. Western Europe has experi-

Only last October, the benchmark enced one of its mildest Februaries on

The economic crisis gripping much of Asia, meanwhile, has curbed energy appetites in what was the world's fastest-growing market for oil. Analysts estimate that Asian demand has dropped

by as much as 500,000 barrels a day. Making matters worse in the face of falling demand, members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries raised their production quotas by 10 percent in November, and then proceeded to exceed them. OPEC's output is estimated at as much as 28.5 million barrels a day, largely because Venezuela has opened its doors to foreign investment and is letting oil flow onto the world market as fast as companies can pump it.

Finally, one of the first consequences of a successful weapons-inspection agreement in Iraq could be a sharp rise in Iraqi exports. The UN agreed last week to allow Baghdad to more than double its oil sales to \$5.2 billion over six months to buy food and medicine. The only constraint on Iraqi exports, currently estimated at 1.25 million barrels a day and heading toward 2 million, is a lack of parts and technology.

Kim Aims to 'Front-Load' Seoul Reforms Before Pain Kicks In

By Don Kirk nal Herald Tribun

SEOUL - President-elect Kim Dae ung's advisers are counting on South Koreans to rally behind his program of economic reform in the honeymoon period after his inauguration Wednesday, but they fear a sharp backlash when a pro-

longed recession sets in later in the year. *Our aim is to front-load our toughest economic policies early on while the president enjoys his highest popular-" one of Mr. Kim's senior economic advisers. You Jong Keun, said in an interview Monday. "By the time the pain of reform starts to bite, we hope the reform process will have progressed to the extent it cannot be reversed."

That strategy comes from Mr. Kim's precarious position as a onetime politcal prisoner about to take charge of a coalition government.

fourth attempt with barely 40 percent of the votes, Mr. Kim has vowed to combat the power of the chachol or conglomerates that dominate the South Korean economy. But he needs conservative support in the National Assembly, where the outgoing government has a majority.

Mr. Kim's advisers say that getting economic reforms through the legislature will be more difficult the longer it takes. Mr. You said he feared that Koreans "are not fully aware of the magnitude of the problem" and "are losing their sense of urgency" about the need for reform.

Ironically, Mr. You said, praise for Seoul's reform efforts from the International Monetary Fund, the agency responsible for piecing together a \$60 billion bailout package in December. has contributed to the sense of apathy about immediate reform measures.

"It doesn't help to hear from in-

Elected president in December in his ternational experts who say Korea has burth attempt with barely 40 percent of turned the corner," said Mr. You, governor of North Cholla Province, a Kim stronghold. "With respect to the financial crisis, we're just beginning to turn the corner.

> While such optimism was "a vote of confidence in our new government," Mr. You said, "it gives a false sense of security to Koreans.

The mood here has been one of growing confidence in Seoul's ability to deal with economic crisis ever since a negotiating team, which included Mr. You. persuaded representatives of international creditor banks last month to roll over \$24 billion in short-term debt into bonds maturing in one to three years.

Mr. Kirn's advisers point out,

however, that the country has to pay more than \$10 billion in debts that come due in March and that both domestic and foreign banks are reluctant to extend fresh credit.

Mr. Kim has estimated South Korea's foreign-exchange reserves at \$15 billion, half of what the IMF has stipulated as the minimum needed for fiscal security, though he predicted the reserves would reach \$30 billion by June.

"In the short term, things will get worse," said Peter Bartholomew, managing director of Industries Research & Consultants. "Many companies are down to four, three, two or even one day of work a week. The inventory of materials will be depleted by the end of March. All they're importing are critical materials like oil, iron ore, coking coal

and medicines." Mr. Bartholomew foresees a pattern in which "bits and pieces" of failure are growing into larger chunks, and the food chain of the economy is slowly being shut down.'

The government sought to give the chaebol some of the means to reform themselves with a new law recently accepted by labor unions that allows largescale layoffs. But the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions, which has 600,000 members in such sectors as automaking and shipbuilding, threatens strikes and walkouts if companies "abuse" this right or overlook requirements that they discuss layoff plans with union leaders and dismiss workers only in cases of "emergency.

The confederation, however, appears reluctant to press as hard on the issue as some of its members have demanded.

Workers at Hyundai Motor Co.'s main plant in Ulsan, on the southeastern coast, said Monday they would protest the suspension of five of the automaker's lines amid sagging domestic sales. Earlier, Hyundai said it had agreed on

price increases with its tire suppliers,

See KOREA, Page 18

Thinking Ahead /Commentary

Global Economy Needs Salesmanship

By Reginald Dale International Herald Tribune

TASHINGTON — A rules governing internatarget of zealots seeking to stem the

means or foul. The campaign against a proposed Multilateral Agreement on Investment, has reached a level of hysteria out of all

proportion to reality.

One opponent, Jack Lang, the former French minister of culture,

Although such initiatives. maintains that the agreement would create "a kind of world economic soviet" to promote the interests of large corporations, beyond the reach of popular control, and jeopardize the future of European integration.

Others have made wild charges that the proposed agreement would prevent action to head off future Asian-style financial crises and that it would have kept apartheid alive in South Africa by barring economic sanctions against the former white-minority government.

There is absolutely no evidence for any of these extravagant claims, which are based on little more than pure fantasy. In fact, the international business community is displeased that the international agreement in question has been hatched in complete must get smarter than the saboteurs who manually deviate a product of the same productions. There may in the end be no agreement. That would be a pity, but not a tragedy. The tragedy would be if elected governments failed to learn that they must get smarter than the saboteurs who many of the more ambitious aims of the secrecy, or that its implications are seek to disrupt the global economy.

double taxation, have been dropped.

The truth is that much of the proposed accord, intended to ban discrimworthwhile attempt to improve and streamline the rules governing international gainst foreign investment, reprove and streamline the rules governing international policies and agreements. Many of the critics' tional investment has become the latest more serious objections have been met. sovereignty, threaten the environment tide of economic globalization by fair high-level talks in Paris last week, the ordinary workers. whole thing could fail.

But none of that is likely to stop the propaganda barrage against the agreecurrently being negotiated by the 29 ment, which is fast becoming a text-members of the Organization for Eco-nomic Cooperation and Development, usually claiming ment, which is fast becoming a textcauses, can undermine economic lib-

exercise, such as the elimination of being deliberately kept hidden from the general public.

Next is a claim that the whole thing is a conspiracy cooked up by mul-tinational corporations with the aim of evading government controls. Finally. the agreement is said to erode national What's more, following inconclusive and jeopardize the jobs and wages of

In the United States, these one-sizefits-all allegations were used unsuccessfully against the North American Free Trade Agreement and the establishment of the World Trade Organization and number of activists, usually claiming more recently, and with greater effect, to represent labor and environmental against President Bill Clinton's request to Congress for renewed "fast-track"

eralization initiatives.

Although such initiatives are generally beneficial — the agreement, for track "has emboldened the opponents instance, would help to make invest- of the proposed accord - even though ment more efficient, generating more jobs, higher growth and improved liv-strably false. It is just not true that the ing standards — they also need to be agreement has been negotiated in clearly explained by governments if secret or that labor and environmental

understood.

If governments do not carefully prepare the political ground, as they have lamentably failed to do for this agreement, the way is left open for the activists to launch potentially devastating misinformation campaigns.

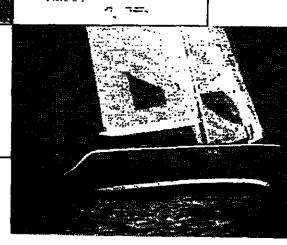
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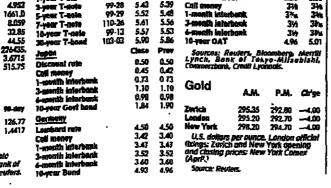
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CURRENCY & INTEREST RATES

Feb. 23 Libid-Libor Rates

| Feb. 23 | Feb. 24 | Feb. French Sterling From: 74: 77: 39m. 39m. 74: 77: 4 43% 74: 77: 37: 394 79: 70: 37: 44% 1-month 5½ - 5½ 3¾ - 3½ 3½ - 3½ 6-month 5½ - 5¼ 3¾ - 3½ 1-year 5½ - 5¼ 3¾ - 4½ - 4½ **Key Money Rates** Bank base rate Call money 1-month intertor 3-month intertor Discount rate Prime rate Federal funds 98-day CDs (deal) 188-day CP (deal) AL 20-day R-A 7% 7% 7% 7% 7% 5.99 e To bay one pound b: To buy one dollar: "Units of 10th N.Q.; not quoted; N.A.; not avail Yield 5.23 5.32 5.43 5.52 5.61 5.57 5.90 3-month T-bill 1-year T-bill 2-year T-note 5-year T-note 10-year T-note 10-year T-boad Jupen T-boad Other Dollar Values 3.30 374 3% 314 314 4.96 3.30 316 316 316 316 5.01 Cutrency Mez. peso N. Zeckond S Nerw. Icrose Phil. peso Polish ziety Part. escodo Ross robie Sgodi riyal Sing. S Per \$
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Capital General

Very briefly:

IPSA General -

Mexico City Bolsa

Buegos Aires Merval

Toronto

São Paulo

Santiago

 Union Planters Corp., a banking company with operations in eight Southern U.S. states, is acquiring Magna Group, Missouri's third-largest bank, in a \$2.3 billion stock swap. The United States posted a larger-than-expected monthly budget surplus in January of \$25.38 billion, putting the government on course for its first annual surplus in almost 30 years. The January 1997 surplus was \$13.4 billion.

· Mesa Air Group Inc. is preparing to close its United Express operations in Denver, cutting as many as 450 jobs, as Air Wisconsin takes over some of its routes, according to published reports. UAL Corp.'s United Airlines canceled its partnership contract with Mesa effective April 23, and Mesa expects to end its operations in Denver the following day.

 Mexico's current-account deficit widened to \$7.32 billion last year from \$1.92 billion in 1996, as higher interest payments to foreign creditors and an increase in corporate earnings sent abroad outpaced a small merchandise-trade surplus and remittances from Mexicans working outside the country. • Money Store Inc. is considering merging, combining or allying with another party and has hired Prudential Securities

Weekend Box Office

LOS ANGELES - "Titanic" dominated the U.S. box office over the weekend with a gross of \$21 million. Following are the Top 10 moneymakers, based on estimates for Friday through Sunday.

The Associated Press

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13 L.A. Confidential

'Emotions' Bar Caterpillar Deal

UAW Members Vote Down Proposal to End 61/2-Year Battle

PEORIA, Illinois --- The United Auto Workers union's rank-andfile members have rejected both their leaders' advice and a contract offer from Caterpillar Inc. that would have ended a six-and-a-halfyear labor battle, one of the longest in the United States.

The contract was rejected by 58 percent of the members voting during the weekend. Caterpillar has more than 12,000 UAW-represented employees. A key issue that turned the vote against the contract was a provision that some workers who the union said had been illegally fired during a strike would not automatically get their jobs back, union members said.

At the same time, they pointed out, the proposed six-year contract called for all workers who had crossed picket lines when the UAW struck Caterpillar to be given an any better, ensuring that the world's

mnesty by the union.
"That was really the thing it hinged on," George Boze, vice president of UAW Local 974 in East Peoria, Illinois, said. "It was the emotional issues.

Wayne Zimmerman. Cateroillar's vice president, said Monday that the company was disappointed by the rejection but would continue with business as usual.

He would not speculate on when the two sides might return to the bargaining table or discuss whether Caterpillar would give ground on some of the issues that seemed to sway the union voters.

'I don't have an answer to where

we are going with negotiations today," he said. UAW leaders had recommended approval, saying the proposal was better than one that was rejected in December 1995 But union members did not like it

struction equipment still would not have a contract with the UAW. The last one expired Sept. 30, 1991.

The deal, according to the written description given to UAW members, also lowered wages for new workers while giving the Peoriabased company greater power to limit overtime and use temporary workers. It also required the union to drop unfair labor practice complaints against Caterpillar.

The contract would have given current Caterpillar workers raises and increased pension benefits, along with job security until 2004.

The agreement would have covered about 13,000 Caterpillar workers, most of them at plants in Aurora, Decatur, East Peoria and Pontiac, Illinois. It also affected smaller numbers of members in Pennsylvania, Colorado and Ten-(AP, Reuters)

Cadbury to Expand Its Network in U.S.

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

Cadbury LONDON Schweppes PLC said Monday it would buy stakes in two U.S. bottlers, helping it expand distribu-tion of 7-Up. Dr Pepper and its other brands in America

Cadbury will spend £73 million (\$120 million) for a 40 percent stake in American Bottling Co., a joint venuue with the Washingtonbased Cariyle Group, an invest-ment company. American Bottling will in turn acquire Michiganbased Beverage America and Select Beverages of Chicago.

The deal was viewed as an important step by Cadbury to try to secure its soft-drink distribution system. Cadbury is third behind Coca-Cola Co. and Pepsi-Cola Co. in the \$54.7 billion U.S. soft-

More than half of Cadbury's Dr. Pepper/Seven-Up's products are now bottled by Coca-Cola and Pepsi distributors. Some analysts

had expressed concern that Cadbury might buy a bottling operation outright, leaving it financially exposed to a notoriously difficult and fragmented market

Last month, Cadbury renewed distribution deal with Coca-Coca Enterprises, Coke's bottling operation, but industry specialists have said the relationship between Cadbury and the big two U.S. drinks makers could break down if competition intensified.

Iohn Sunderland, Cadbury chief executive, said, "Today's announcement emphasizes our commitment to reinforcing the route to market for 7-Up and our other flavor brands in the U.S. soft-drinks market."

He said the joint-venture approach "enables us to improve the strategic alignment between Dr Pepper/Seven-Up and its key bottlers in a manner which limits our capital investment."

(AP, Reuters, Bloomberg)

Iraq Accord Pulls Down Oil Shares

NEW YORK - Stocks were mixed Monday, pulled down by a decline in oil shares after the United Nations reached an accord with Iraq inspections of suspected weapons sites, although computerrelated shares gained.

The accord with Iraq removed a threat to the near-perfect scenario of steady growth with low inflation that underpinned the market's rise of the last three years, investors said. 'If we're going to have peace and

U.S. STOCKS

not war, people want to have money in the market," said Joseph Mc-Alinden, chief investment officer at Dean Witter InterCapital Inc.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 3.74 points to end at 8,410.20, but the Standard & Poor's 500 Index was up 3.93 points at 1.038.14.

Microsoft climbed 4 to 81% after a 2-for-1 stock split, leading the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index up 23.63 points to 1,751.76, a record close. The Nasdaq last set a record Oct. 9 at 1,745.85. The Nasdaq advance was dom-

Computer rose 4% to 130 15/16, and Intel climbed 21/2 to 94 3/16. Bond prices fell amid concern that the Federal Reserve Board's chair-

suggest that Asia's slowdown will not have a big impact on the U.S.

"I wouldn't take any big bets" on Treasury issues before Mr. Greenspan's remarks, said Jack Ablin of Barnett Capital Advisors in Jacksonville, Florida. The Fed chairman may indicate "the Asian situation is not going to pare our economy as much as he originally thought," Mr. Ablin said.

The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond fell 14/32 to 103 4/32, driving its yield up to 5.90 percent from 5.86 percent Friday.

Crude-oil prices fell from already depressed levels on concerns that Iraq might also work a deal to begin

selling its oil, compounding an already saturated market.

The potential impact on revenue for big oil producers hurt their shares. Chevron fell 2 3/16 to 77, and Exxon dropped 1 13/16 to 621/2.

Their declines offset a big gain from Merck after the Food and Drug Administration cleared the drugmaker to sell its Singulair asthma

Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing, which makes a competing asthma inhaler, fell. DoubleClick rose 31/4 to 30. The

Internet-advertising concern sold 3.5 million common shares for \$17 each in an initial public offering.

Survey Sees a Shortage of Workers

WASHINGTON — U.S. employers will face a continuing struggle to find qualified workers at least until the middle of the year, according to a survey released Monday by Manpower Inc., the temporary employment agency. 'It is quite clear that the business

inated by high-tech bellwethers: Dell community is hungry for people with the right skill profiles and that demand is not being sufficiently met by the available worker popula-tion," said Mitchell Fromstein, man, Alan Greenspan, who testifies tion," said Mitchell before Congress on Tuesday, may chairman of Manpower.

Mr. Fromstein said there was "increasing competition" among companies for workers with high skill levels, while "even at the lowest skill levels," there were fewer

people seeking jobs. The survey found that of 16,000 businesses contacted, 30 percent planned to recruit staff in the second quarter, 61 percent foresaw no changes, 5 percent planned staff decreases and 4 percent were uncertain. Three months ago, 24 percent said they would increase employment, and 10 percent expected cuts.

Reduced Tension Over Gulf Leads to a Dollar Sell-Off

NEW YORK - The dollar fell

gainst most other major currencies Monday as signs that the Gulf crisis might be abating eroded demand for

The dollar retreated after an early surge against the yen, brought on after finance officials from the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations did not suggest at their

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

weekend meeting in London that they would take steps to bolster the sagging Japanese currency. The UN-Iraq accord, reportedly allowing for nearly unconditional United Nations access to all suspected weapons sites, eased concern that the United States might use air strikes against Iraq.

"With U.S.-Iraq tensions easing, there's a flight out of quality, and that's weighing on the dollar against the mark," said Nick Shamim of ANZ Bank in London.

sibility of conflict in the Gulf. They aren't going to adopt any additional

sold them for Deutsche marks and _fiscal stimulus."

yen after the UN secretary-general Kofi Annan, signed the agreeme with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz of Iraq.

"The dollar's getting hammened across the board," said Ben Stranss of Bank Julius Baer, who said he, too, had sold the currency.

In 4P.M. trading, the dollar feil to 1.7960 DM from 1.8213 DM on Friday and slipped to 127.900 year from 127.955 yen. Against other currencies, the dollar fell to 1.4495 Swiss francs from

1.4690 francs and to 6.0185 French \$ francs from 6.1160 francs. The pound rose to \$1.6470 from \$1.6380. The dollar could resume its climb against the yen in the weeks ahead amid perceptions that Japan is not doing enough to lift its economy out

of a slump and dwindling chances that G-7 central bankers will try to stem further yen weakness. "The G-7 was in fact not concerned with yen weakness and gave no hint of intervention," said Many traders bought dollars in Jeremy Fand of BankBoston, "and recent weeks in response to the pos- the Japanese made it clear they

AMEX

Monday's 4 P.M. Close

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U. S. STOCK MARKET DIARY

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INTERNATIONAL FUTURES

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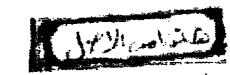
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Tension Over 6 a Dollar Sell-Of

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government said Monday that it would sell up to 30 percent of Air France to the public and the airline's employees, while keeping a majority stake in the firm. Finance Minister Dominique

Strauss-Kahn said 20 percent of the national airline would be sold this year in an initial public offering— 17 percent will be offered to the public and 3 percent to employees. An additional 10 percent will be offered to pilots and managers in exchange for a 15 percent wage cut aimed at lowering costs.

The government would hold 53 percent of the airline under the plan. It hopes to raise 3 billion francs (\$492 million) from the sale, according to some reports.

value the company at about 20 billion francs, will make it easier for Air France to forge international the operation is a success.

on forging alliances and the company has also struggled to strike trans-Atlantic partnerships.

The sale is of vital importance to Air France," said Francois-Marie Wojcik, a fund manager at CCR Actions. "As long as it remains in state hands, it will always miss out on much-needed alliances because of concern about state interference."

Doug McVitie, a senior analyst at Teal Group, an aviation consultant, said: "It's a sign that the carrier is awakening to commercial realities." In the next five years, Air France

plans to spend 40 billion francs to improve its fleet and add new routes, Transport Minister Jean-Claude Gayssot said Monday.

Analysts said the government's as 100 new jets and wanted Boeing sale of a minority stake would have Co. and Europe's Airbus Industrie The sale, which is expected to to be priced competitively to attract investors, but recent improvements in the business should ensure that

Deal for Inter-Continental Helps Bass Move Upscale

LONDON — Bass PLC's acquisition of the Inter-Continental Hotels & Resorts chain has left the British brewing and leisure company well-positioned for the next five years, Sir Ian Prosser, the chairman of Bass, said Monday.

"I think we have re-established and restructured our asset base very successfully, and we are now in the markets that we want to be in," Sir

The £1.78 billion (\$2.91 billion) acquisition of Inter-Continental from Saison Group of Japan means that Bass, which beat rival bids from Marriott International Corp. and Patriot American Hospitality Inc., has widened its reach as an international upmarket hotel company. The deal helped lift Bass shares Monday to £10.19, up 50 pence.

Analysts said that although the price, at 16 times Inter-Continental's 1997 profit, initially looked expensive, the deal will produce cost savings and strong growth potential.

Fraser Ramzan, an analyst at Lehman Brothers, said: "Cost savings, revenue enhancements and the company's ability to invest in the business promises a 12 percent return in year four. Bass has found a home for its cash which will give plenty of value for shareholders over the medium term.

Bass already owns Holiday Hospitality, whose brands include Holiday Inn, Crown Plaza and Staybridge Suites. Holiday Hospitality operates or franchises about 2,400 hotels in nearly 60 countries. Most of Inter-Contintal's hotels are in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, where Holiday Inn is weak.

The hotel chain came up for sale because Saison had come under pressure to cut debt, and the collapse in Asian financial markets forced it to drop plans for a separate flotation. Saison has suffered losses in its core supermarket chain, Seiyu Ltd.

retention of a controlling stake in the company could deter some potential

buyers, the analysts said. Christian Blanc left as chairman in September because he was unable to persuade the government to privatize the company fully.

One of the main attractions of the

LONDON - British Airways

PLC said Monday it needed as many

consortium to bid for the order, which

it valued at as much as \$3.2 billion.

The manufacturers have until

March 16 to complete their initial

bids for the contracts to replace aging

planes at four regional Europeanbased subsidiaries of British Airways. BA has historically used Boe-

ing rather than Airbus planes for its

The rival aircraft makers both ex-

Susan Bradley, a Boeing spokes-

woman in Seattle, said she was sure

Boeing would "pursue an oppor-

tunity of that magnitude very ag-

In Paris, Airbus Industrie said in a

pressed immediate interest in com-

peting for the orders.

gressively.'

for the first half to September of 1.762 billion francs, up from 597

million a year earlier, and said earnings for the full year to March will be close to the first half level. An earlier forecast of net profit was around 1 billion francs.

shares will be the turnaround that Transport and Foreign Ministry of- tition.

of success. We hope to make a final

decision before the summer.'

\$960 million.

haul route, to New York.

Air France has not always enjoyed positive image among internation pany's performance in recent years. The company reported net profit with the United States. Such treaties govern how many airlines may serve a given market and how much capacity they can offer.

France is now the only country in Europe without an air treaty with the United States. The French threw out their U.S. treaty in 1992 to shelter The sale announcement comes as their national carrier from compe-(AFX, Bloomberg)

BA Seeks Bids for a 100-Jet Order added, "British Airways is currently EuroGatwick. That deal could be flying 10 of our aircraft, and we worth \$2.2 billion, the company would be happy to provide more." said. Air Liberte flies from Paris's said. Air Liberte flies from Paris's Bob Ayling, British Airways' Orly Airport and serves 50 Euro-chief executive, said: "We want to pean destinations. Deutsche BA, look at what both Boeing and Airbus based in Munich, flies to seven Gerhave to offer and will accept the best man cities and Gatwick Airport in proposal. Airbus has an equal chance England. EuroGarwick operates 41

> tain from Gatwick. The airline said it was looking at Airbus Industrie's A319, A320 or A321 or Boeing's B737 series for BA said 30 planes would be needed on its British Airways Regional operation by September 1999, a purchase that could be worth the short-haul order

short-haul routes in Europe and Bri-

The majority of BA's current planes are Boeing 737s, 747s, 757s, British Airways Regional, which operates from Birmingham and 767s or 777s, but the airline said it also had 10 Airbus A320s, seven McDonnell Douglas DC-10s and

Manchester airports in England, serves 26 short-haul destinations in Britain and Europe and has one longseven Concordes. Mr. Ayling said the new aircraft BA also plans to buy about 70 would enable the company to meet other planes to replace those opnoise regulations that will come into

effect in 2002 as well as to save statement, "Of course we will be Air Liberte in France, Deutsche BA money by reducing costs taking part in the competition." It in Germany and British-based

(AP, AFP)

DSM to Acquire Biotechnology Company

erated by three other subsidiaries:

AMSTERDAM — DSM NV said Monday it planned a friendly 2.9 billion guilder (\$1.45 billion) takeover of Gist-Brocades NV, a Dutch biotechnology company. The move is intended to create a

top supplier of specialty chemicals to the global food and drug industries.

This will create a powerful new force in pharmaceutical and food ingredients with leadership posi-

tions in many markets," the DSM chairman, Simon de Bree, said. Shares in both companies soared on the news. Gist-Brocades closed

up 4.90 at 64.90, while DSM gained

2.70, to 203.50. Mr. de Bree said that takeover to be neutral for earnings on the basis of 1997 figures, the per share in 1998 but said the syncombined group would have revergies released by bringing the two enue of 14.6 billion guilders, of businesses together would generate which some 25 percent, or 3.7 billion an extra 50 million guilders a year in guilders, would derive from pharmaceutical and food ingredients.

DSM said its offer in cash and shares valued Gist at 66 guilders per recent market price.

Mr. de Bree said DSM's strength in organic fine chemicals and Gist's complementary expertise in fermentation and enzyme technology profit growth. DSM expects the specialties.

operating profits.

Herman Scheffer, the Gist chairman, who will join the DSM board if the deal goes through, said the acshare, a 30 percent premium to its cord would give Gist the financial resources it needed to pursue growth opportunities.

Mr. de Bree said DSM planned to retain and invest in all of Gist's main businesses: industrial pharmaceutwould provide a sound base for icals, bakery ingredients and food



Very briefly:

The Trib Index

185.57

98.44

230.13

Jan. 1. 1992 = 100

World Index

Asia/Pacific

S Amenca

• Societe Generale is buying the U.S. investment firm Cowen & Co. for \$615 million. The French banking company will pay \$540 million for the bank and \$75 million to retain certain key staff. It plans to pay 60 percent of the price to Cowen's partners upon signing the deal and the rest in three annuities.

 Investoorp SA, a holding company that is managed from Bahrain but registered in Luxembourg, agreed to buy Wat-moughs Holdings PLC, a British printing company, for £250 million (\$409.5 million), topping a hostile bid from Canada's Ouebecor Inc.

 Akzo Nobel NV, the largest Dutch maker of chemicals and drugs, said four: -quarter net income rose 24 percent, to 361 million guilders (\$175.9 million), in line with expectations, as the pharmaceuticals division led gains.

• Britain's gross domestic product for the fourth quarter rose 0.4 percent from the third quarter and 3 percent from a year earlier. Both rates were less than originally estimated as declining industrial output offset the strongest consumer spending in more than eight years.

· Standard Chartered PLC and Barclays PLC denied recent speculation that they were considering a merger.

• Nokia Ov said Finnish shareholders representing ownership of more than 20 percent of the company will propose electing Paul Collins, vice president of Citicorp, and Robert van Oordt. chairman of NKF Holding NV, to Nokia's board.

 Austria confirmed its position among the countries most likely to join the European single currency at its planned outset Jan. 1 as it became the first candidate to submit its 1997 economic data for examination. Dresdner Bank AG confirmed a report that it had sus-

pended a manager in its Amsterdam branch amid an insidertrading investigation. The bank, which refused to identify the employee, said the suspension was for an indefinite period while it conducted an investigation. Remers. Bloomberg AFP

+ 1.62

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— 0.20

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Prices as of 3.00 P.M. New York time

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS



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Indonesia Will Delay Its Plan for Rupiah Peg

JAKARTA - Indonesia bowed to

international pressure Monday and said it would delay pegging its currency to the dollar until its companies could renegotiate \$74 billion in foreign debt.

Finance Minister Mar'ie Muhammad signaled a retreat after the currency proposal was criticized by the International Monetary Fund, which threatened to suspend payments under its \$43 billion

bailout of the economy. But Mr. Mar'ie stressed that preparations for a fixed exchange-rate mechanism were still going forward.

'The president has not made any other decision since he instructed Parliament and the Finance Ministry to prepare for a currency-board system."
Mr. Mar'ie said at a parliamentary budget committee hearing.

The proposal sought to stabilize the country's battered currency, the rupiah, which has lost more than 70 percent of its value since the Asian currency crisis started in July. On Monday, the dollar rose to 9,450 rupiah in local trading from 8,900 rupiah Friday.

The currency-board plan has drawn criticism from the United States, European governments and the IMF, which argue that Indonesia will not be ready for such a system until it implements banking and other economic reforms.

Chan Chia Lin, head of economic research at ABN-AMRO Holding NV's trading unit in Singapore, said Indonesia's action indicated it was "coming to terms with international pressure" and that the threat of a \$40 billion loan withdrawal was "too significant a factor to ignore.'

Comments that Mr. Mar'ie made Monday signaled the government was retreating from quick implementation of a currency board.

The matter of restructuring private foreign debt has to be done first, so there won't be a rush to buy dollars," he said. Many large Indonesian companies have failed to service their debts because of the plunge in the rupiah in the

Mr. Mar'ie said that if implemented, the currency board would have to be a credible operation or it would collapse. He also said the government would honor all its foreign and local commitments even if such a system were put in (Reuters, AFP, Bloomberg)



Mr. Mar'ie, Indonesia's finance minister, speaking Monday in Parliament.

Japan Is Firm: No Quick Fix

Yen Falls as Tokyo Brushes Off Pressure From Abroad to Spend

TOKYO --- Japan stood its ground. Monday, refusing to promise quick fiscal measures to stimulate its economy despite fresh evidence of economic weakness and calls from its Group of

Seven partners for it to act. The yen tumbled against the dollar in Tokyo trading, but not as much as many analysts had expected, amid mounting concern over the government's handling of its sluggish economy. The dollar rose to 128.45 yen here from Friday's close of 126.50 yen.

After returning from the G-7 meeting of finance officials in London over the weekend, Finance Minister Hikaru Matsunaga said. "I did not make any pledge to form a supplementary budget for the fiscal year 1998-99, although some media reports said I did."

Earlier, the deputy finance minister, Eisuke Sakakibara, said, "What we said is that we will try to pass the fiscal 1998 budget as quickly as possible." He added that Japan had made no promises at the G-7 meeting about what it might do beyond that. The G-7, which comprises Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and the United States, singled out Japan for its weak economy and called on Tokyo to bolster the economy with fiscal measures.

"In Japan, activity is low, and the

outlook is weak," the group said in a statement after the meeting. While the group praised Japan's financial reforms, cited what it called the opinion of the International Monetary Fund that there is "a strong case for fiscal stimulus to

support activity during 1998."

The deputy trade minister. Osamu Watanabe, said the steps the government had already taken would lead to an improvement in the economy.

Separately, Japan moved closer to implementing a 13 trillion ven (\$102.8 billion) capital infusion for its banks, the first of a planned series of steps to bail out indebted lenders and restore con-fidence in the financial system.

A review board made up of Mr. Matsunaga, the Bank of Japan governor Yasuo Matsushita, a business executive, a lawyer and an academic will decide by Thursday which banks are eligible for the money. They will also determine what conditions the government may attach to the funds.

The Economic Planning Agency, meanwhile, underscored the frailty of Japan's economy, saying that its diffusion index of coincident economic indicators fell below the "boom or bust" level of 50 for a third month in a row in December and probably would stay below that line for January.

(Reuters. AFP, Bloomberg)

Daiei Predicts Loss Investor's Asia As Retail Sales Sag

chain, reversed its full-year profit forecast to a loss and said it would reduce its dividend in the face of slow sales and mounting debts.

Daiei's revision comes after the Japanese retailer Jusco Co. on Friday slashed its group net forecast 71 percent. Jusco also blamed slow retail sales, which have declined in Japan for nine straight months.

Daiei will report a parent billion yen (\$39.1 million) for the year ending Saturday, down from a forecast on Oct. 15 for a profit of 7 billion yen. That will be the retailer's first

parent pretax loss. In the previous year, it had posted a modest profit of 591 illion ven.

months from December, but this time they dropped, and that hurt the most," said President Isao Nakauchi.

Domestic demand has slackened after an increase in last April to 5 percent from 3

For the next business year,

TOKYO - Daiei Inc., Ja- Daiei said it expected to repan's largest supermarket turn to profit, forecasting a chain, reversed its full-year parent current profit of 5 billion yen. It said it hoped to see the profit expand further to 15 billion yen the year afterward.

Daiei, which also runs the chain of Lawson convenience stores, said it would sell 160,000 Lawson shares to four companies for 16.6 billion yen:

That will help cut growing debts that will be worth 690 billion yen by the end of Febcurrent, or pretax, loss of 25 mary, said Vice President Jun Nakauchi.

The company will also sell an amusement park in Nara prefecture in western Japan for 15 billion yen; also to pay off debts.

The company will cut its parent dividend to 5 yen per share from 8.25 yen per share. "We usually see the It will also scale back the highest sales in the three number of new stores to between six and seven, from its initial plan of 11, and close down five of its 100 unprofitable stores

Shares of Daiei, based in Kobe, fell 8 yen to close at the national consumption tax 667 Monday. The revision was announced after the mar-

(Bloomberg, Reuters) Mitsubishi Electric Considers

Quitting Home PC Business

TOKYO - Mitsubishi Electric Corp. said Monday it was considering ending its production of desktop personal computers for the home market because the business was "not very profitable."

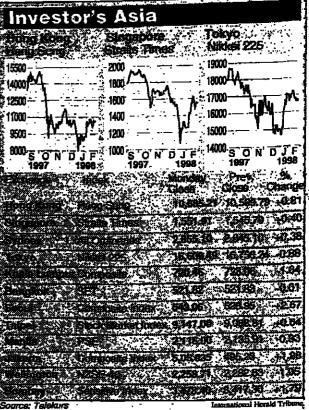
Home PCs accounted for about 10 percent of Mit-subishi Electric's 309 billion yen (\$2.44 billion) in com-puter sales in the year that ended in March 1997.

The company said it would continue making personal computers designed for business use, as well as notebook computers and servers, or computers that run networks.

A published report said Mitsubishi Electric would pull out of the European and Japanese personal-computer markets, bringing an end to Apricot Computers, one of Britain's oldest computer brands. Mitsubishi Electric

bought Apricot for £39 million (\$63.8 million) in 1990. But a spokesman called that report "misleading," saying Mitsubishi Electric was only considering withdrawing from the consumer desktop PC market.

The spokesman said Mitsubishi Electric was not considering cutting the Apricot line of notebook computers.



Very briefly:

• Vietnam's trade deficit narrowed last year to \$2.35 billion from \$4 billion in 1996, but the consumer price index rose 2.2 percent in February from January, according to preliminary data. Prices were up 4.5 percent from the year-earlier

• Sharp Corp.'s shares fell 4 percent, or 40 year, to 1,000 after the company, the world's largest maker of liquid-crystal displays, said group net profit for the year through March would be 39.5 percent less than it forecast last November! Sharp expects to post group net profit of 24.5 billion yen (\$191.4 million).

 Kawasaki Steel Corp. was ordered to pay 52 million yen in compensation to the family of an employee who committed suicide, as a court ruled that unreasonable working hours without rest had led him to take his life.

 Toyota Motor Corp. received 6,500 domestic orders for its new Land Cruiser model in the first month after its introduction Jan. 19. Its monthly sales target was 1,500 units. • DirecTV Inc., a satellite broadcasting venture led by Hughes Electronics Corp. of the United States and Mat-sushita Electric Industrial Co. of Japan, is to add 25 channels to its service starting April 1, raising its number of satellite video channels to 88.

• Forbes & Co., a U.S. family-held company, offered to invest \$519 million in a fisheries project in Pakistan. Lucien Edward Forbes, the chairman, said he had submitted to the government a proposal to develop a port, processing plants, a fleet of fishing trawlers and a shipyard.

 Woolworths Ltd., Australia's largest food retailer, said profit for the six months that ended Jan. 11 rose 18.6 percent. to 175 million Australian dollars (\$117.8 million) from 147.5

 Optus Communications Pty., Australia's second-ranking telecommunications carrier and pay-television company, had first-half operating profit of 41 million dollars, reversing a loss of 63 million dollars a year earlier.

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KOREA: Trying to Front Load' Reforms

Continued from Page 13

ending a dispute that forced the company to stop almost all production Saturday. Workers at Mando Machinery Co., which makes components for the top three makers of motor vehicles, canceled a strike called for Monday after the company promised not to lay off workers even though it failed to meet debt payments in December and is look-

ing for foreign investors. Mr. Kim, who counted ou labor for much of his support in his bid for the presidency, has appeared far more likely to clash with the chaebol than with the unions. A sign of his determination to take on the industry giants was his appointment of Kim Tae Dong, a university professor who has fre-quently criticized the chaebol system, as

his economic secretary.

Calling on the chaebol to submit detailed restructuring plans by next week, Mr. Kim has berated the companies for extending their power far beyond their means or ability.

In a statement released by his party, the National Congress for New Politics, the president-elect charged that the chaebol "have infringed on sectors designed for smaller companies, sold products to people at high prices and engaged in speculative real-estate investment.

While owning 50 or so companies, the major chaebol "have failed to produce a single item ranking among the

world's best," Mr. Kim said. Soon, he said, the chaebol "will be barred by laws" from advancing beyond their core industries to the detriment of small and medium-sized enterprises -

and of the economy as a whole. While reluctant to sell off any of their major companies, the chaebol are cutting back. Hyundai Electronics Industries said Friday that it was selling Symbios Logig Corp. to Adeptec Inc., a

California company, for \$775 million. Hyundai, which bought the Colorado company from AT&T Corp. for \$340 million three years ago, plans to invest the money from the sale in an Oregon semiconductor plant, a spokesman

■ Investment Banks to Be Closed

South Korea said it would order several investment banks to shut down this week, a move that analysts said signaled a tough government approach to restructuring the financial industry. Reuters reported.

The Finance Ministry said it would

announce Wednesday which banking companies would be shut down, based on a special assessment of the financial status of 20 banks.

Analysts said Nara Banking Corp., Daehan Investment Banking Corp., Hansol Merchant Bank and Central Banking Corp., all of which were suspended in December, were likely to be among those closed down.

HSBC: Banking Company Sees a Rocky '98

Continued from Page 13

Hongkong Bank group, fell 2 percent when stated in pounds. Like all big banks in Hong Kong, HSBC's oper-ations here, which include its 61 percent-owned Hang Seng Bank, have heavy exposure to mortgage lending. Hang Seng Bank's net profit rose 10 percent, falling short of the consensus forecast of 14 percent made by 32 analysts surveyed by IBES Inc.

Interest rates in Hong Kong have shot up since October, severely reducing the number of new mortgages and driving down property values by 40 percent or

"Given the uncertain interest-rate outlook and the slowdown in overall economic activity," said David Eldon, chairman of Hang Seng Bank, "the banking industry faces a difficult environment not seen in many years."

HSBC said its charges for nonperforming or doubtful debts totaled £615 million, 60 percent more than in 1996. Provisions against bad debts at Hongkong Bank more than tripled, to 4.5 billion Hong Kong dollars.

HSBC also owns Midland Bank in

Britain, which turned to be its star performer for 1997. While HSBC received considerable criticism over its acquisition, for buying what had been a relatively poor performer in British banking, Midland's profit rose 24 percent last year. Without Midland, HSBC's earnings would have been far worse.

The group also controls Marine Midland Bank based in Buffalo, New York, which previously reported a 24 percent increase in earnings for 1997. Profit at HSBC Americas Inc. which includes Marine Midland and operations in Canada, rose 19 percent.

Firm Switches to Dollar Data

HSBC will report its results in dollars starting this year, Reuters reported.
"In 1997," Mr. Purves said in an-

nouncing the company's earnings, "exchange rates again had an effect on our results, since the U.S. dollar and currencies closely linked to it form the main currency block in which the group's business is transacted."

The Hong Kong dollar is pegged to the U.S. dollar. Shareholders will still be able to take

dividends in pounds as well as in new shares, he added, although the dividends will be declared in dollars.

JAL Reaches Pact To Cooperate With American Airlines

Bloomberg News TOKYO — Japan Airlines Co. said Monday it had reached a codesharing accord with AMR Corp.'s American Airlines Inc. that would enable the two carriers to cut costs and gain greater footholds in one another's region.

The agreement, the first codesharing accord between a Japanese and an American airline, will expand JAL's access to some U.S. cities and give American Airlines a bigger share of destinations in Asia. American's presence in the region now consists of just three daily flights to Tokyo.

"Code-sharing is a break-through for both airlines, especially

for U.S. airline companies with limited access to Japan," Osuke Itazaki at Okasan Economic Research Institute said.

The code-sharing arrangement will enable the airlines to jointly operate some routes and to book passengers on one another's domestic flights, which will give JAL access to some U.S. routes.

American Airlines has said it wa looking for a strong Asian partner e help it compete with UAL Corp. United Airlines Inc. and Northwe Airlines Inc., the only two Us carriers with broad rights to pic! passengers in Japan and fly the other Asian destinations.

The agreement also could be JAL into the pending alliance tween American and British ways PLC. Before the code-sharing

ment was completed An Airlines said it hoped code with JAL would enable it flights to Tokyo from Dall Chicago and a service to from Dallas. American Air the largest U.S. airline, now three flights a day to Tokyo, each from Dallas, Seattle and Jose, California. The only U.S. airlines that

rently have broad access to Ja are Northwest Airlines. United & lines and Federal Express Corp The agreement comes the weeks after the U.S. and Japane. governments eased flight restrict tions between the two countries.

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Herald Eribung

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Philippoussis keeping his eye on the ball against Chang.

Mature Philippoussis Ruins Chang's Day

TENNIS Mark Philippoussis, the Australian known for his booming serve, says he is taking his tennis more seriously.

He has cut back on his eating, is working harder during practices and is more determined to win each match. The new approach worked Sunday as he beat Michael Chang, the defending champion, 6-3, 6-2, to capture the St. Jude indoor tour-

nament in Memphis, Tennessee. It was Chang's birthday, and afterward Philippoussis, who said he was now restricting himself to three meals a day, took only a couple bites of Chang's birthday cake.

"I have matured a lot," he said. "I definitely still can mature a lot more. I'm a guy who won't mature fully for another couple years. That's just the way I am." (AP)

Cricketer Killed by Ball

CRICKET Raman Lamba, a former Indian test cricketer, died Monday in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from head injuries after he was struck by a ball while fielding in a club match.

Doctors said Lamba's life-support system was switched off several hours after he was pronounced clinically dead.

Lamba, a 38-year-old batsman, played in four test matches for India. He was hit on the forehead while fielding at short leg for Dhaka's Abahani Club on Friday. He was not wearing a helmet.

Lamba was able to walk to the dressing room. He vomited there, and was then rushed to a clinic and later to Dhaka Postgraduate Medicme and Research Hospital

A spokesman for Wisden Cricketers' Almanack said no player had died from being hit by a ball in first class cricket. But there have been a few deaths in club and youth cricket. A son of King George II of England was killed by a ball in 1751.

Lamba scored 782 runs in 32 one-day internationals at an average of 27.96. In his four tests he scored 102 runs, averaging 20.40. with a top score of 53. (Reuters)

Johnson Wins Big Raise

BASEBALL Charles Johnson, the Florida catcher, won the final salary arbitration case of the year, getting a more than tenfold increase to \$3.3 million, from \$290,000.

During a hearing Friday in Phoenix, the Marlins argued he should be paid \$2.25 million. But in a decision late Saturday, the arbitrators ruled for Johnson.

Johnson's victory left owners with a 5-3 margin in the cases that went to hearings. Seventy-three of the 81 players who filed last month agreed to contracts with their teams before facing arbitrators. (AP)

Bulgaria Borrows Bonus

SOCCER The Bulgarian soccer federation has taken a 1.5 million Deutsche mark (\$822,000) loan from Deutsche Bank to pay a bonus to its soccer squad for qualifying for the World Cup finals.

'We have drawn the credit only because we want to be fair to the players and the trainers and pay them as we have promised," Michail Kassabov, the federation vice president, said Monday. He said that the loan had been guaranteed by Puma, the sportswear maker and one of the Bulgarian team's sponsors, and that it would be repaid from the federation's share of the World Cup payments. (Reuters)

'Survivalist Games' Timed It Just Right

Salt Lake City Has a Hard Act to Emulate

By Mike Penner Los Angeles Times Service

NAGANO, Japan — The Olympic caldron went out here Sunday night, and, no, it wasn't because of a blizzard or a freezing monsoon.

The Survivalist Games, the first Winter Olympics almost to get called off on account of winter, came to their designated conclusion on time, amazingly with all the Alpine ski events completed a good 28 hours before the closing ceremony.

For a while it looked as if the

slalom and giant slalom events would have to be rescheduled for February 2002 in Salt Lake City. which will have one distinct advantage

over Nagano when it hosts the next Winter Games: It isn't anywhere near the Japan Alps.
Representatives from Salt Lake City

were at Sunday's closing ceremony to take the baton, with Tasuku Tsukada, the mayor of Nagano, symbolically passing the Olympic flag to Mayor Deedee Corradini of Salt Lake City.

Then Salt Lake City was allowed to put on a show, a five-minute presentation designed to "give you a good flavor of how we plan to do things," said Frank Joklik, head of the Salt Lake City Olympic Organizing Committee.
Following colorfully clothed flower

girls, snaking Japanese lion dancers and traditional drummers into Minami Nagano Sports Park were whooping cowboys on horseback, rustlers with twirling lassos and a rambling, rumbling stagecoach — a foot-stompin' revue in the shadow of Zenkoji Temple.

By the end of those five minutes, with glowing red-yellow-and-blue Salt Lake City 2002 logo poking its head out of a plastic butte, Nagano's Games had never looked better.

Juan Antonio Samaranch, the International Olympic Committee president, withheld his customary "best Games ever" declaration during his closing speech, instead praising Nagano's "wonderful volunteers" and congratulating the city and Japan for "the best organization in the history of the

Olympic Winter Games." Atlanta organizers winced when Samaranch made a similar omission at the Samaranch describing those troubled Games as "most exceptional."

But honesty is a cherished quality in Japan, and what was Samaranch to tell the people here after Lillehammer raised the bar almost impossibly high with its joyous 1994 festival? The crowd in the stadium cheered as Samaranch spoke. happy to receive the compliment.

The praise was accurate too, with Nagano weathering everything the testy gods could throw at the place with a smiling resilience and a never-flagging

These Games were plagued by everything from white-outs to driving hailstorms to avalanche warnings to even an earthquake, leaving athletes, officials and media to wonder what could possibly be next? Locusts? Well, several restaurants in Nagano City did serve steaming plates of deep-fried

grasshopper during the Games. The Alpine ski events in Hakuba were hardest hit, the elements forcing dozens of race postponements and six days with no skiing at all. Organizers had no other option than

to backload the Alpine schedule, cramming five races — four medal events into two days.

The Alpine tripleheaders and double-headers taxed the skiers and wreaked havoc with media coverage, often forcing reporters to opt for one

event over another - Hermann Maier in the men's Super G slalom or Picabo Street in the women's

If IOC members had done their homework, none of this would have come as a shock. World Cup ski races in Japan are historically problematic and at the 1993 world championships in Morioka, the men's Super G was never held — the only time in the history of the Winter Olympics or the world championships that an Alpine medal event had to be scratched.

Remarkably, the skiers plowed through the slush and the sleet for several memorable performances, including: Maier crashing spectacularly during the men's downhill, walking away

and going on to win gold medals in Super G and giant slalom. • Street's stunning victory in the women's Super G, barely a year after

undergoing extensive knee surgery. Germany's Katja Seizinger winning gold medals in women's downhill and combined to become the third female Alpine skier to win gold medals in

three different Winter Olympics. Beyond the weather, the Nagano Games will also be remembered for: • Tara Lipinski's surprising victory in a shootout with Michelle Kwan for the women's figure skating champion-

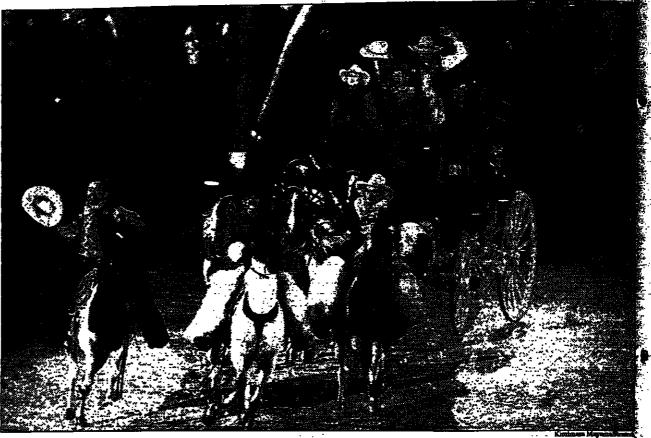
 Buffalo Sabre goaltender Dominik Hasek leading the Czech Republic to successive upsets of the United States, Canada and Russia en route to the gold medal in the first Olympic men's hockey

tournament to permit NHL all-stars. Norwegian cross-country skier
Bjorn Dahlie winning his Winter eighth gold medals.

 The United States winning the first Olympic gold in women's hockey.

 And athletic excellence from the hosts, ranging from ski jumper Masahiko Harada bouncing back from disaster in Lillehammer to launch an Olympicrecord jump of 137 meters to Hiroyasu Shimuzu winning Japan's first Olympic speedskating championship with a gold medal in the men's 500-meter event.

Joklik said Salt Lake City was eagerly awaiting the challenge, while acknowledging that Nagano had left him with a tough act to follow. "I'm full of admiration for the event they put on here," Joklik said. "I have been here three and a half weeks and I'm unable to put a finger on anything they didn't do well or could have done better.'



A stagecoach from Salt Lake City thundering through the closing ceremony of the Winter Games in Nagano

Memories of Nagano, Good and Bad

Washington Post Service

AGANO, Japan — The 1998 Winter Games will be remembered for weather --- too much snow, too little snow, too much rain, too much fog - and for the exquisite politeness of our hosts, even under the most trying of circum-

After almost three weeks here, though, I will remember these Games as a series of moments — some grand, some small — and a diverse group of people who seemed to define what were the last Winter Games of the millen-

I will remember tiny Tara Lipinski leaping from her seat in the kiss-and-cry zone at White Ring and squealing, like any teenager would, when she realized: that she had upset the gold-medal favorite, Michelle Kwan, in women's figure skating. And I will remember Kwan at the news conference afterward, looking almost shell-shocked even as she I will remember Hermann Maier -

the Herminator — pinwheeling through the air and crashing through two fences and over another before landing on his head in the men's downhill in what will surely be the video clip of these Games. And I will remember him swooping across the finish line of the men's super giant slalom three days later, his arms thrown up in the air as he realized that his time was the best of the day.

I will remember Picabo Street singing the national anthem on the medal stand, her voice loud, proud and slightly offkey. I will remember how she gushed amazement at being able to win the gold in the women's super-G despite major reconstructive knee surgery, and I will remember, too, her talking about how her mother practiced the anthem with Vantage Point/Jennifer Frey

her in their living room in Idabo. Hardest to forget, I think, will be A. J. Mleczko and Cammi Granato and Sarah Tueting and all the women who were told that hockey was not a girls' sport, and who won the United States a gold medal in an emotional game.

Hard, too, it will be not to get angry every time I remember a conversation I had on a street corner in central Nagano a few evenings ago. I was listening to two American lugers — men who had made all sorts of sacrifices to be here, men who barely make a living at their sport - tell me in upset voices why the behavior of some members of the U.S. men's hockey team made them feel as if their whole Olympic experience had been cheapened.

They were not the only ones who felt that way. Maier - fresh off his second gold medal — grabbed a notebook away asking about the U.S. hockey team. "U.S. hockey — a joke," Maier wrote, then he autographed the sentiment. It was hard to disagree.

I will try harder, though, to remember the NHL stars who made their countries proud in these Olympics - Dominik Hasek, Jaromir Jagr, Pavel Bure, Teemu Selanne, you all know who you are. I will remember Hasek and Patrick Rov battling it out in a most dramatic penalty-shot situation. And I will remember Wayne Gretzky sitting on the Canadian bench afterward, all alone, with tears of disappointment on his cheeks.

I will remember Pasha Grishuk, the Russian ice dancer, seated on the floor of the warm-up room before her free dance with her partner, Yevgeni Platov, scrutinizing her blond hair in the mirror

again and again and again. I will remember the Norwegian ski trainer who carried me on his back up an icy, treacherous stretch of Mount Higashidate so that I could see Alberto Tomba take one

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OR better or worse, I will remember a host of pot jokes that came with Ross Rebagliati's positive test for marijuana after he won the gold medal in one ridiculous sport, snowboarding. And I won't remember a thing about another ridiculous Olympic sport — carling — because, thankfully, it was one event I never attended.

I will remember Japan for bad weath er and good manners and great sushi and, more than anything, for the pure joy the Japanese expressed when their athletes found success. Did you see Masahiko. national figure to this country's greatest Olympic hero with one incredible, almost-unmeasurable ski jump? He is, in a runaway, my favorite Olympic hero.

The day that Harada jumped his spectacular 136 meters, I spent part of the afternoon at a bathhouse, where I sat in. the sauna with an elderly Japanese woman. There was a television there. and the footage of Harada's jump, of his tears, of his emotional interview - he cried, the TV reporter cried, the anchorman cried, and, finally, even the cameraman let his hands wobble with emotion - played over and over and over again, in a continuous loop. Faint from the heat, overwhelmed with emotion, the woman watched for more than 30 minutes, tears mixing with the sweat, that poured down her cheeks. .

South Africa Offers Bid For World Cup in 2006

OUAGADOUGOU, Burkina Faso South Africa presented its long expected bid for the 2006 World Cup

Molefi Oliphant, the president of the South African Football Association, said he hoped South Africa would benefit from the battle between Germany and England for the right to be host of

Oliphant, who is in Buckina Faso for the African Nations Cup, said he was confident his country would be able to present a viable bid and become the first African country to stage the World Cup. 'We have noted the battle between England and Germany and we believe

we are a strong third candidate," he "We are able to offer the same facilities in terms of infrastructure and the

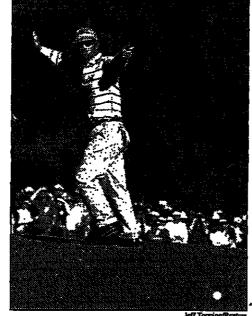
same passion for the game." Oliphant said the campaign would seek strong support from the Confederation of African Football to help them with the bid.

Danny Jordaan, secretary-general of the South African federation, said the campaign would be based on the fact that Africa had yet to host a World Cup

'It is time that we had a chance to show that the African continent can also play host to the biggest sporting event in the world," he said.

"The World Cup belongs to the whole world, and Africa also must be given a chance to host the tournament,' he added.

South Africa is the second African country to bid for the World Cup. Morocco lost out to the United States for the right to be host of the 1994 finals.



David Duval celebrating as his birdie putt at the 18th rolls toward the hole.

Duval Calms Nerves To Take Tucson Golf

TUCSON, Arizona — David Duval had a problem at the Tucson

Chrysler Classic: He wasn't used to protecting a seven-shot lead. By the 14th hole in the final round of 19-under 269. Sunday, Duval had squandered his overnight lead and was level with Justin Leonard, his playing partner at 17-under. Duval decided the answer

was to attack. "Any nerves I had up until then were gone on No. 15," he said. 'After I bogeyed 14, my thought was now I had nothing to protect. So I had to go out and try to take it, whereas all day long people were trying to take it

Duval birdied two of the last three holes to win the \$2 million event by four strokes over Leonard and David

Duval earned his fourth victory in nine tournaments — the best streak since Nick Price won four of six in 1994 — despite shooting 1-over-pat 73. He finished with a four-day total

It was the highest winning round since Billy Mayfair's 3-over 73 that won the 1995 Tour Championship. "I hung in there somehow, and I think that's the important thing," Duval said.

Leonard shot a final-round 70 that included a bogey on the 18th hole.

■ 29 Foreigners in the Masters A record-tying 29 international colfers are among the 96 players who have been invited to play in this

year's Masters Tournament, Reinters

reported from Augusta, Georgia. The Masters will be held April 9-12.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL NBA STANDINGS Pet J12 .667 .566 .500 .259 .195 .093

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LA. Latters 23 27 21 22- 94
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O: Anderson 8-20 11-14 30, Harper 7-14 1-3
18. Relevants—Los Angeles 44 (Orivent 10).
Oriondo 59 (Christie 14). Assists—Los Angeles 20 (Fox. Fisher 5), Oriondo 24
(Hotper 7).

(Garrett 12), Seattle 50 (Anchwape 10), Assists—Denner 11 (Newman 4), Seattle 21 (Howtins 5 Paylon 5).

San Anthonis 29 17 23 16—79 Pheenix 22 24 22 29—97 S.A.: Dancom 4-179-11 17, Perdue 8-11 0-0 16; P: Manning 8-13 1-4 17, Robinson 6-12 2-215. Rehousets—San Antonio 43 (Perdue 19), Pheenix 42 (Kidel 9), Assists—San Antonio 17 (A.Johnson 4), Phoenix 33 (Kidel 11).

Milami 22 17 27 30—90 Golden State 22 12 23 17—82 M: Hardoway 8-17 5-6 24, Mourning 10-15 1-2 21; G.S.: Marshattl 10-16 5-6 28, Dampier 6-8 10-15 22. Rehounds—Milami 38 (Bassen 14), Golden State 50 (Dampier, Caffery 11). Adsists—Milami 22 (Plandavay 10), Golden State 18 (Bogues 6).

Bashei 30 24 32 34—121 B: Mercer 11-19 6-6 28, Walker 7-19 2-6 17; P: Sabanis 9-15 5-6 23, Stoudamire 5-16 7-7

17. Rebounds—Boston C. Portland 60 (Sabonis 11). Assists— 'Anderson 6), Portland 32 (Stouck MAJOR COLLEGE SCORES Kentucky 85, Georgia 74 West Virginia 81, Seton Hall 71 Michigan 112, Indiana 64 Illinois 79, Iowa 72 Temple 56, George Washington

THE AP TOP 25

1,708 1,452 1,634 1,584 1,404 1,377 1,275 1,225 1,223 991 919 882 871 781

TUCSON CLASSIC

66-62-68-73-269 65-70-68-70-273 70-67-68-68-273 69-70-67-69-275 68-70-68-71-67-276 David Duval Justin Leonard Justin Leonard
David Toms
Tim Herrort
Stava Lowery
Bob Twoy
Andrew Magee
Tom Lehman
Slave Pate

Top 20 Players Players are from the United States unle

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Players are trom the United State otherwise noted:

1. Tiger Woods 12.07 points overnge 2. Greg Norman, Australia, 11.24,

2. Ernie Eis, South Africa, 10.67,

4. Colin Montgamerie, Britain, 9.28.

5. Davis Love III 9.19,

6. Mick Price, Zimbotwe, 9.04,

7. Phil Mickelson 8.71

8. Massash Czaki, Jopan, 8.05,

9. David David 7.76,

10, Tom Lehrogn 7.67, 10. 10th Lenning 7.57.
11. Justin Lennard 7.25.
12. Steve Eikington, Aus.
13. Mark O'Mears 6.78.
14. Brod Fason 6.40.
15. Tom Walson 6.40.

16. Vijay Singts, Fijl. 6.23. 17. Scott Hoch 6.22. 18. Nick Foldo. B CRICKET

PAKISTAN VA. SINE STATE THREE, DAY MATCH, FINAL DAY MONDAY, IN BLOEMFONTEIN, SOUTH AFRICA Free State: 334-7 declared and 21-3

BUYANA YS. ENGLAN REE-DAY MATCH, FINAL DAY

SOCCER

TENNIS

FINAL Hippoussis (4), Australia, def. ung (2), United States, 6-3, 6-2. ATP TOUR RANKINGS ATP TOUR RANKINGS

1. Pete Sampros. U.S., 2,700 points,
2. Petr Kordo. Czech Republic. 2,437,
3. Potrick Roffer, Austrolio, 2,332,
4. Jonas Bjorkman, Sweden, 2,985,
5. Greg Rusedsid, Britain, 2,806. 5. Greg Rusedski, Britolin, 2,806.

6. Marcelo Rilos, Chile, 2,777.

7. Yevgenry Karfeinikov, Russici, 2,765.

8. Michael Chang, U.S., 2,686.

9. Alex Corretto, Spoin, 2,351.

10. Richard Krulicek, Natherlands, 2,411. Gustavo Kuerien, Bruzil, 2,258.

11. Gustavo Kuerien, Bruzil, 2,258.

12. Sergi Brugueru, Spoin, 2,198.

13. Karol Kuczn, Slovakia, 2,172.

18. Govern vermisseric, Locana, 1,501.
17. Alberto Berassdegui, Spain. 1,695.
18. Cedric Pioline, France, 1,691.
19. Carlos Marya, Spain, 1,683.
20. Thomas Muster, Austria, 1,611.
WITEL TOUR: MARKEMENT. WEA TOSTIC BARRENGES

1. Martina Hilligs, Switzerland, 5,688 point

2. Lindsay Davenport, U.S. 4,118.

3. Jona Novelna, Czech Republic 3,648.

4 Monica Seies, U.S. 2,988.

5. Amanda Coetzer, South Africa, 2,853.

6. Mary Piarca, Franca, 2,690.

7. Arentha Sanchez Vicaria, Spain, 2,674.

8. Ivu Majok, Creatia, 2,578.

9. Conchim Mortinez, Spain, 2,484.

10. Linda Sprien, Romania, 2,387.

11. Nathalie Tauziat, Franca, 2,014.

12. Sandrine Testud, Franca, 1,999.

13. Anter Huber, Germany, 1,880.

13. Anka Huber, Germany, 1,880.
14. Venus Williams, U.S., 1,690.
15. Mary Joe Fernandez, U.S., 1,621.
14. Deministra Ven Broom, Salakuri. 16. Dominique Von Roost, Belg 17. Al Sugiyema, Japan, L488. 18. Party Schnyder, Switzerland 19. Liso Raymond, U.S. 1,354.

TRANSITIONS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
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SPORTS



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ceremony of the Winter Games in a Hill, and on and on — Anmore verbal shots at O real.
"I don't like getting into squabbles, saying things about Shaq," Anderson said. "Let him make his little comments

22.00 in lagain and again by for this day to come."

quite go in. This is not going

A crowd of 17,238 booed in the control of 18,238 booed in the

The Associated Press

MBA ROUNDUP

have been through — incon-

sistency, infighting, the messy firing of coach Brian

derson wouldn't take any more verbal shots at O'Neal.

about whatever. As a team,

this was a good victory. I'm

more happy for the fans than anything. They were waiting

ORLANDO, Florida __

has won five of its last six to climb one game above 500, 2 telespite the absence of Penny Hunit Par Hardaway, out with a strained

The Lakers, starting a sixingle and a

The said one: Pacers 97, 76ers 92 Reggie Miller scored 19 of his 25 points in the second half and in one second half and hit a key 3-pointer with two minutes left as Indiana beat Philadelphia for the second

DENNIS THE MENACE

time in four days and the ninth time in a row.

Allen Iverson scored 33 points for the 76ers, 23 in the second half.

Bucks 79, Cavaliers 71 Glenn Robinson scored 29 points and Ray Allen scored eight of his 20 in the fourth quarter as Milwaukee won at

home against Cleveland. Shawn Kemp had 20 points and 10 rebounds for Cleveland, as the Cavaliers lost

their seventh in nine games. Timberwolves 113, Kings 95 In Minneapolis, Anthony Peeler scored 16 points in his first game for the Timber-

Sam Mitchell scored 17 points for Minnesota, which had seven players in double figures. Mitch Richmond had the loosey-goosey walk 32 points for Sacramento.

Raptors 113, Grizzlies 105 Chauncey Billups scored a career-high 27 points, 10 in overtime, as Toronto beat visiting Vancouver to snap a sixgame losing streak. Billiups, traded to the Rap-tors by the Boston Celtics last

week, was 5-of-13 from the field, 4-of-7 from 3-point range and 13-of-16 from the Heat 90, Warriors 82 P.J.

rebounds as Miami overcame a 16-point third-quarter deficit for its seventh straight road victory.

SuperSonics 88, Nuggets 68 In Seattle, Greg Anthony had a season-high 15 points, including three 3-pointers in the fourth quarter, as the SuperSonics handed Denver its seventh straight loss.

Sums 97, Spurs 79 in Phoenix, Danny Manning and Dennis Scott came off the bench to spark a big fourth quarter for the Suns who won their fifth straight.

nal period and Scott hit two 3-Trail Blazers 121, Celtics 96

Arvydas Sabonis had 23 points, 11 rebounds and 8 assists as the Trail Blazers ruined Kenny Anderson's return to Portland.

quarter before blowing out the Celtics in the second half.

Anderson, traded first to Toronto and then to Boston last week, had 14 points and 8 assists in his return to the Rose Garden.

In a game reported in late

editions Sunday: Knicks 92, Rockets 74 ln New York, John Starks scored 13 points in a burst at the start of the fourth quarter to carry the Knicks to victory in New

Clyde Drexler scored 16 No. 2 Duke 120, No. 12 UCLA 84 Duke grabbed the chance to move back to No. points for Houston.



Brown had 20 points and 14 Joe Smith of the Philadelphia 76ers leaping for a pass as Chris Mullin of the Indiana Pacers, right, looked on.

Mountaineer Seniors End on a Peak

The Associated Press

West Virginia started five seniors in their final home game, and each scored in double figures as the Mountaineers 22-5, 11-5 Big East) stopped Seton

West Virginia, ranked No. 20, lost all but three points of a 54-41 lead midway

COLLEGE ROUNDUP

Manning had nine of his through second half and held on by team-high 17 points in the fi-going 9-of-10 from the foul line over the going 9-of-10 from the foul line over the final 1:11.

Jarrod West scored 20 points for West Virginia. Donnell Williams scored 19 points for the Pirates (13-13, 7-9).

No. 22 Himois 79, Iowa 72 Jerry Hester scored 20 points, and the Illini (20-8, 12-3) kept alive their chance at a share of the Big Ten title. Michigan State, with a 13-The Blazers outscored the 2 conference record, has clinched at least The Blazers outscored the 2 conference record, has clinched at least time, road-weary Celtics 24-16 in a share of the regular-season champion if it is second period and led by as much as 19 points in the wins at Indiana on Tuesday and Michael Carlotte and the second period and led by as much as 19 points in the wins at Indiana on Tuesday and Michael Carlotte and the second period and led by as much as 19 points in the wins at Indiana on Tuesday and Michael Carlotte and the second period and led by as much as 19 points in the wins at Indiana on Tuesday and Michael Carlotte and the second period and led by as much as 19 points in the wins at Indiana on Tuesday and Michael Carlotte and the second period and led by as much as 19 points in the second period p igan State loses to Purdue on Saturday. Ricky Davis had 18 points for the

visiting Hawkeyes (18-9, 7-7). No. 25 Temple 56, George Washington 49 Lamont Barnes had 20 points and seven blocked shots for the visiting Owls

(19-6, 12-3 Atlantic 10), who beat a ranked team on the road for the third time in February. Temple's defense forced 21 turnovers and held the Colonials to 38 percent shooting.

George Washington lost its fourth

straight In games reported in late editions

Monday:

1 presented by North Carolina's loss to Scored 57 points in the opening 20 North Carolina State on Saturday. Scored 57 points in the opening 20 minutes, shooting 56 percent, making 10

Duke (25-2) scored most points ever allowed by the Bruins. Duke rose to No. 1. Arizona, the reigning NCAA cham-pion, climbed to No.2 while North Carolina fell to No. 3. UCLA fell to 18th in the new rankings released Monday.

Trajan Langdon matched his careerhigh with 34 points for Duke, which had been No. 1 twice already this season, dropping out following losses to Michigan and North Carolina.

Elton Brand, a freshman center, played for the Blue Devils for the first time since breaking his foot on Dec. 27 and had 14 points and seven rebounds in

minutes, shooting 56 percent, making 10 of 17 3-pointers and blocking seven shots to go up by 24 points at halftime. No. 7 Kentucky 85, Georgia 74 The Wildcats (24-4, 12-2 Southeastern Conference) trailed by seven points at half

time but shut down the visiting Bulldogs (14-12, 6-8) in the second half. No. 21 Michigan 112, Indiana 64 The Wolverines (19-8, 9-5 Big Ten) scored

the most points ever allowed by a Hoo-siers team coached by Bob Knight. The loss was the second-worst for Indiana since Knight took over for the 1971-72 season, just off the 106-56 loss

to Minnesota in 1994. Description of the Hoosiers (18-8, 9-5).

Larry Richardson scored 13 points for the Hoosiers (18-8, 9-5).

Students Banned From Breakfast Cereal Box

The Associated Press

NAGANO, Japan — Wheaties may be the "Breakfast of Champions," but five women on the Olympic champion hockey team won't get to see their faces on the box. That is because five of the gold medalists are still in college, and under NCAA rules they can-not accept commercial sponsorships if not accept commercial sponsorships if teammates step on stage at the Met-they want to continue their college ropolitan Hotel for the Wheaties box hockey careers.

Fifteen members of the U.S. women's hockey team will be on the box. General Mills, the U.S. food manufacturer that makes Wheaties, does not feature amateur athletes often, but the eligibility issue came up when the

U.S. women's gymnastics team was Summer Olympics, said a spokesman,

Greg Zimprich.
"It's a rule, and we were aware of it coming into this. But it's a bummer,' Tara Mounsey, one of the unlucky players, said as she watched 15 of her announcement.

Even though the team members will not necessarily make money from being on the Wheaties box, NCAA rules prohibit college athletes from allowing their photos or names to be used for financial gain by someone else.

CALVIN AND HOBBES

Retooled Indians Focus on '98 Series

By Murray Chass New York Times Service

WINTER HAVEN, Florda - No, Mike Hargrove one-run lead in Game 6 of the said, he hasn't heard any spring-training talk among the players about his team's excruciating extra-inning loss world in him. I think he's in the seventh game of last year's World Series.

"Of course," the Cleve-land Indians manager manager quickly added Sunday, "in my speech to start the spring. I said I didn't want to hear about it because it was over. It

was last year." Hargrove laughed. Yes, the Indians can still laugh, despite the way Game 7 turned on them, the tying run scoring with two out in the ninth inning, the deciding run in the 11th as the Florida Marlins won. 3-2.

It was team's second World Series loss in three vears, but the Indians plan to be back for more - World Series, that is, not necessarily World Series defeats.

"Just because you don't win the World Series doesn't mean you failed that year, said Jim Thome, the first baseman. "The more you go look at it as a failure because years. Atlanta kept going and

Hargrove has set out to do what he can to make sure his the win Cleveland's first World Series since 1948.

one-on-one meetings with wind on one of the Indians players this year than in the practice fields. "We're a past," he said, "because of trade-oriented organization and we wanted to make sure a core of players together, but residuals.

The manager has paid especially close attention to Jose Mesa, the team's closer, who squandered the 2-1 ninth-inning lead in the final game of the Series. Mesa endured a difficult off-season. finding it hard to shake off the zona so he could be near his failure that snatched the children and a series of moves championship rings from the flowed from that deal. The Indians' fingers.

saved 101 games of the 113 in enabled the team to sign pointed out to his star reliever for McDonald and two other that he had a 3-0 record with a pitchers.

0.83 earned run average from "These people put a com-0.83 earned run average from

game of the World Series, but you saved a one-run game in the fifth game of the divisional series and you saved a league series.

We reiterated that we have all the confidence in the been able to let that go and realize it's a new year and a new deal. Saying it and doing it are two different things, but from what we've got from

him, he's ready to go."

There had been talk during the off-season about trading Mesa and signing Rod Beck to replace him, but that scenario never developed, and Mesa remains the closer for Cleveland. For the second successive off-season. however, the Indians have

made significant changes. Last year they let Albert Belle, Kenny Lofton and Paul Sorrento go, replacing them with Matt Williams, David Justice and Marquis Grissom. Now Williams and Grissom are gone, Lofton is back and Travis Fryman has replaced

Williams at third base. Dwight Gooden has replaced Orel Hershiser in the starting rotation and Ben Mcand the more times you don't Donald will become part of it. win it, yeah, they're going to too, when his surgically repaired shoulder permits. The you keep going and losing. Indians were expecting Mc-Like Atlanta for all those Donald to join the rotation around the middle of May at going and didn't win it. It got the earliest before he returned to be, When are they going to Cleveland on Saturday for to?" It's two-sided. But tests after aggravating the however you look at it, shoulder in early spring you've been successful." throwing.

We went into winter with idea we probably players have a positive ap- wouldn't have a very active proach to this year's quest to winter, and it turned out to be another busy winter." general manager John Hart said, "We've had a lot more standing in the whipping how close we came last year, with the idea of trying to keep there's nothing left over, no making changes we feel will improve our club for the short

Hart said he had planned to try to sign Williams to a contract extension and, failing that, to retain him for the last year of his contract. But Williams requested a trade to Ari-\$5.5 million the club received "I think he's fine," said from the Diamondbacks and Hargrove, who in a meeting saved on the difference bewith Mesa reminded him that tween the salaries of Williin the last three years, he has arms and Fryman, Hart said, which he has appeared in save Lofton, which enabled Hart to situations. Hargrove also trade Grissom to Milwaukee

just before the All-Star Game break in July.

Relating his chat with the 31-year-old reliever, Har
as good as last year's. I think grove said he told him: the players who replace the People say you blew the players who leave are as comone-run game in the seventh petitive as the other guys."

alms Nerves Tucson Golf

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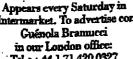












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BLONDIE

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POOR GARFIELP. HE POESN'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST ME

GATHERING IN THE DISTANCE.



FOR I HAVE THE ELEMENT OF SURPRISE









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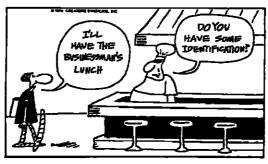






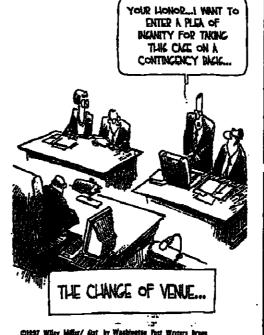


WIZARD of ID





NON SEQUITUR







ART BUCHWALD

The Stakeout: Live!

WASHINGTON—In order to guarantee every and so as I exited I was surcitizen his First Amendment rounded by reporters. The TV rights, you have to have a cameras rolled.
"stakeout." A stakeout, "What did by which is reserved for the most Since these important news stories, takes

place when a large gaggle of TV producers, news reporters and TV cameramen gathers in front of a home, office or

hotel, waiting Buchwald for a leading player in a story to exit or enter. The reporters pray the person will say something hotel, waiting Buchwald person will say something deep source who refused to be worth 30 seconds on the even-identified or answer your

ing news.

I speak with authority on stakeouts because I inadvert-20 years.

types huddled in vans and said, "We will go to the Su-leeps, waiting for their prey to come out. When they saw me they assumed that I also "If you were advising

Waigel's Teddy Bear Is Sold for a Cause

NUREMBERG — Finance Minister Theo Waigel's teddy bear fetched 1,200 Deutsche marks (\$665) at an anction in the south German city for

child victims of war. The teddy, showing signs of wear from long before Waigel rose to his position, is a relic of the 1930s.

"What did he say?" Since these were my people I didn't want to disappoint them, so I answered, He's angry as hell, and he is determined Starr is not going to push his client around."

This was raw meat to the stakeout people. "Did he say anything about Monica's relationship

with the president?"

ently became part of one I wandered off. But after when I checked into the Hotel that, every time I went in or Regency in New York City — out of the Regency I was sur-a place where I have been rounded by the stakeout team, having bed and breakfast for which was now depending on me to give them the straight

After a few days I started to William Ginsburg, Monica run out of news. I told them Lewinsky's lawyer, was also how disgusted Ginsburg was staying at the hotel. There with Starr for calling Mon-were four or five dozen media ica's mother to the stand. I

Ginsburg, what would you

I might have continued my stakeout role for the rest of the week, but Ginsburg screwed me up. He came out of the hotel and started talking to reporters himself. My credibility was also damaged when the reporters discovered Ginsburg was on the 16th floor and I was on the 3d. But I had my 15 minutes of

fame, and that is all anyone in

a sex scandal can ask for.

By Mike Zwerin

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — One sunny afternoon in San Francisco in 1991, Dan Storper was walking to an Indonesian art exhibition when he passed a crowd of happy people listening to a collection African, Latino, Asian and Caucasian youths playing vigorous, melody-driven dance music.

The band was named Kotoja and a few years later they would release an album on Storper's own record label. Which did not yet exist.

As a student he had worked on a dig in Mexico. Archaeology and cultural anthropology interested him. Now he was traveling to remote places around the globe buying arts and crafts and clothing to import for his six bounques in the United States. (He sold to others wholesale.) His company, Putumayo, was named after a Colombian river.

If he was in a museum in Bogota and saw an interesting exhibit of handicrafts from a community in the Colombian jungle, he'd study a map and go visit it. Traveling like that, he'd heard lots of indigenous music. So somehow the music of Kotoja in San Francisco stayed in his head. Not only the music, the entire scene became a sort of meta-

phor for him. Everything that was right in the world.

Back in New York, he walked into one of his shops and heard an in-store cassette playing an unrelenting, speedy assortment of rap, thrash rock and techno music. Personnel and clients alike seemed jumpy. Here he was selling objects from the Andes and the Himalayas, products with the image of clean air and reflection, while at the same time he was aurally polluting his own air. This was something seriously wrong in the world. He had a sort of negative flash. He could

During his travels as an importer, he had bought albums of local music for his personal collection more or less blind. Now he began to put together "best-of" cassettes for his stores. It was amazing. The better the music, the more people seemed to like it. The sales people were more pleasant; the customers asked where they could buy it. He decided to "go for the music," the kind of music that just might be able to "bring the world closer together." He started Putumayo the

record company.

It was vague and perhaps naive, but he sensed an open window. There were neither listening stations nor World



Putumayo and the Secrets of World Music

Dan Storper, who founded Putumayo Records to help put World Music on the map.

all - walk out of the Virgin Megastore with \$700 worth of ethnic records and sort them out later at home.

Today, Storper's business cards read "Putumayo World lusic." (He has sold all his boutiques except one.) He is "President/Pounder." Like Putumayo's album jackets, his calling cards are decorated with idyllic, colorful, "fanxprimitive" images of dreamy villages, flowers, birds, smiling faces of many races, people playing musical instruments, dancing, taking a siesta under a benevolent sun. The image it adds up to is perhaps a bit too idealistic, too literal, too close to a sort of hip "have a nice day" sticker. Or "It's morning in the Third World." ("What, me worry?") Tra la tra la.

Contrary to their bean-counter, bottom-line-only repu-

tation, Storper does not think that the people who run the record business are all in it for the money. At least the World Music business: "People are in it because they love it. I've never found one person in this community who does not love this music." He sends copies of his CDs to businessmen friends, and he is "constantly getting notes from them about

Disney, for distribution in France. · Storper says he has noticed that Disney people walk out whistling a happy tune after a screening of one of their pictures. Now I'm not a par-ticular fan of McDonald's or other big American corporations, but I do like Disney and the people I met who are with them. It is good to see a

mainstream company saying, 'Maybe we should look at ways to have a better connection to our community . . . be more environmentally sound." With Touchstone, Storper is constructing alternative marketing channels, similar to what he has set up in the United States — selling records through gift shops, chic cafés, travel

agencies and tour packagers.
Finding ways to get good music to
a new audience, helping people discover it, he considers that he is in the happy position of being able to build a strong qualitative case along with a a strong quantative case along with a healthy product base. (His successful releases sell in high five- or low six-figure quantities.) Both environment-ally and financially sound.

Bear in mind, however, that some of the people Putumayo discovers are not known outside their own valley or off their own island and that music from faraway cultures

will not sell Disneyesque numbers without being watered down. The real authentic music tends to stress unfamiliar scales and weak beats, like 3 1/2, instead of "do" and one. This is what makes it fresh to begin with. Unfamiliar to Western ears, it also makes it difficult. So he has released many easy-listening numbers to begin

Although the music may be somewhat more superficial than he likes to think, collecting different music from around the world that is soulfully if not stylistically similar is still a very good idea — an idea he's worked exceptionally hard to

He's 46. His customers are, say, between 30 and 50. He considers them "disenfranchised." Turned off by massproduced product. And the system does not make it easy for

them to know where to turn. Storper believes World Music has a big future. He sees

it as the music that will break down the divide between quality and quantity. Had Bob Marley lived longer, he believes, reggae would have made it already happen: "The It was vague and pernaps naive, but he sensed an open window. There were neither listening stations nor World Music bins in the record stores — no way to find, let alone choose, the records he liked. So, once more, he'd just buy it

PEOPLE

DESPITE being one of the most tribute to his wife of almost five years, successful members of Her Princess Masako. "It feels as though Majesty's Secret Service, at least on the years since our marriage have film, Sean Connery is not considered worthy of a knighthood because of his political activities, according to a Brit
"I am really happy to have a place of the previously recorded news conference, political activities, according to a Brit"I am really happy to have a place of the funniest actors."

Jerry Lewis was honored for lifetime ish tabloid. Connery best known for where I can relax, said the eldest son achievement, the James Bond movies, is an active of Emperor Akihito. Somehow she supporter of the Scottish Nationalist
Party, which advocates independence
for Scotland. When his name was put
forward for a knighthood in the 1998

did not comment on the question of an New Year's Honors, he was reportedly heir, a hot topic in Japan since Naruhito blackballed by the Labour govern-ment's Scottish secretary, Donald Dewar. Connery told the Mail on Sunday that he was "deeply disappointed but strangely not angry or greatly surprised. I have never hidden my political leanings in terms of Scotland from way back." A spokesman for the screenplay award by the Writers Guild prime minister's office said: "We nev- of America. Brooks also directed the Mills, who won, among other awards, er comment on speculation about nominations for honors."

Crown Prince Naruhito, celebrating his 38th birthday on Monday, paid Good As It Gets" took top acting knighted in 1976.

romantic comedy. "L.A. Confidenan Helgeland and Curtis Hanson. who also directed the film. . . . "As

honors in the film category of the 12th Annual American Comedy Awards in Los Angeles, with Helen Hunt named the funniest actress in a motion picture and Jack Nicholson the funniest actor.

Sir John Mills celebrated his 90th birthday at a glittering dinner, sur-rounded by 400 friends and his family of actors. Mills and his wife, the novelist Mary Hayley Bell, have three children in show business — the actresses Hayley and Juliet and screenwriter Jonathan. Leading the enter-James L. Brooks and Mark An- tainment lineup at the dinner at a drus, the authors of "As Good as it London hotel was Hayley Mills's 24the rock group Kula Shaker. John tial" won the award for best adapted his role in "Ryan's Daughter," apscreenplay, which was written by Bri- peared to be in fine form. Arriving with daughter Juliet, he said he was feeling "on top of the world." He was



Jerry Lewis at comedy awards.

Windsor Painting Sets Record

NEW YORK — An eques-trian painting of Edward, Prince of Wales, sold Monday for a record \$2.3 million at an auction of memorabilia from the Paris estate of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor.

An unidentified telephone bidder won the spirited competition among about a dozen people bidding in person or by telephone in Sotheby's

possessions of Edward VIII. the one-time king of England. and the woman for whom he gave up his throne, Wallis Warfield Simpson.

The price, including commission for the auction house, is a record for a Munnings

day, 18-session sale, a Sotheby's spokesman said. The presale estimate for the painting was \$600,000 to \$800,000.

The first six sessions, through Sunday, generated a total of \$8.9 million, topping Sotheby's estimate of \$7 million for the entire sale.

On Saturday, the 200-yearby telephone in Sotheby's auction room.

The 1920 canvas by Sir Alfred Munnings depicts the 27-year-old prince in pink coat and top hat astride his chest-

nut hunter. Forest Witch. It don, a television producer, 'It's going back to Eng-

land," she said. documentary on the duke and ported.

artwork and is the highest duchess, "Going, Going, priced item to date in the nine-Gone," called the sale "very sad for Great Britain. It's like selling the family silver.'

The top-selling items on Sunday were a mahogany dining table in the William and Mary style and an English silver flatware set. Each sold for \$112,500. A New York decorator bought the table. and an American private collector picked up the silver.

The altar cloth used in the marriage of the Duke and Duchess of Windsor at their June 1937 wedding sold for \$24,150 on Sunday. The duke died in 1972; his

king's abdication speech for tate was bought in 1986 by the \$3,500, and was approached owner of Harrod's, Mohamed and rejected - three al Fayed Proceeds will go to offers for the 78rpm disk. the Dodi Fayed International benefit charities he and Di-Kaufman, who produced a ana, Princess of Wales, sup





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